

THE
ARCHITECT
& BUILDING NEWS

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OCTOBER 27, 1950

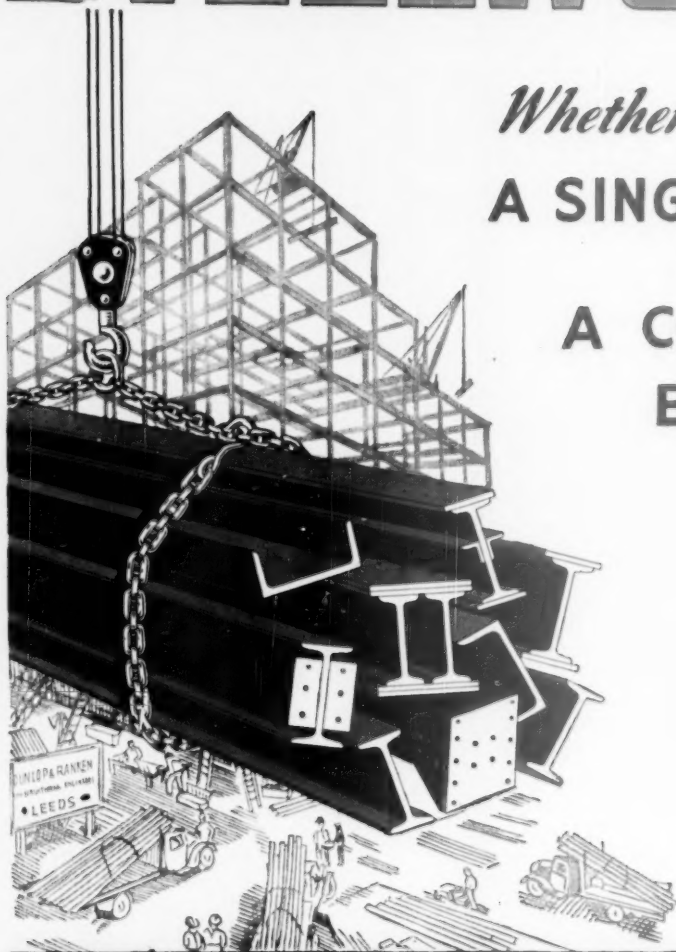
VOL 198

NO 4271

ONE SHILLING WEEKLY

THE ARCHITECT and Building News, October 27, 1950

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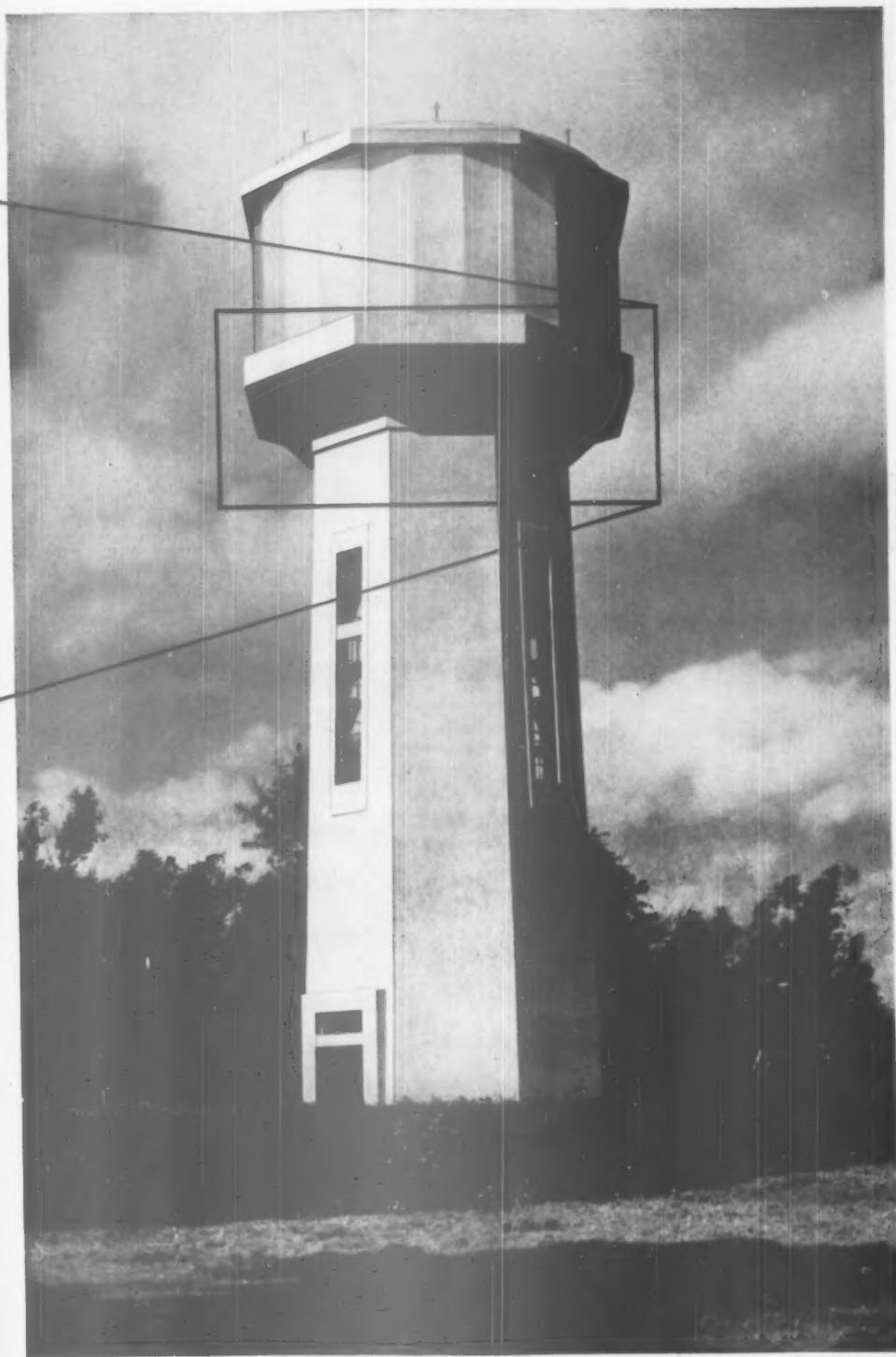
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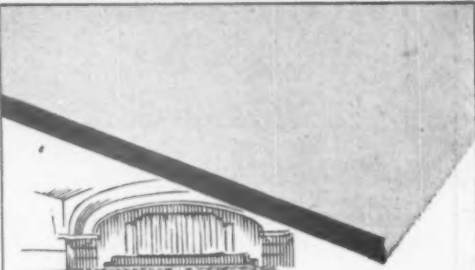
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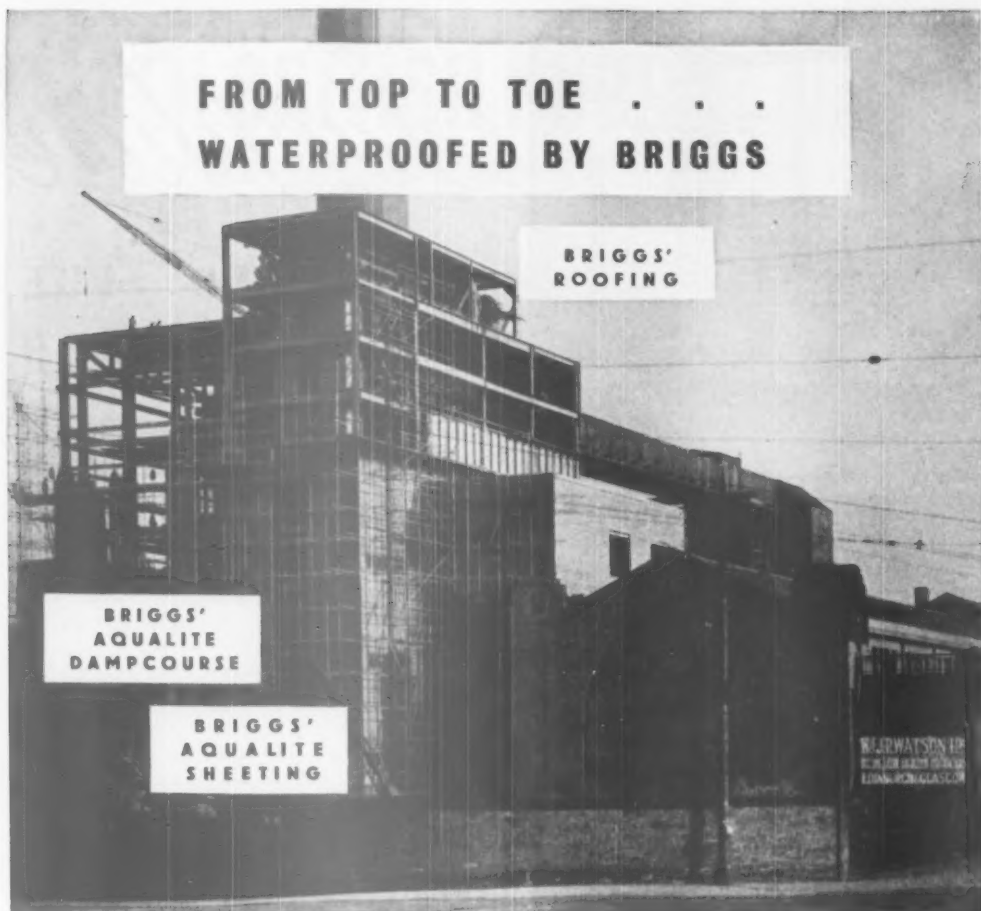


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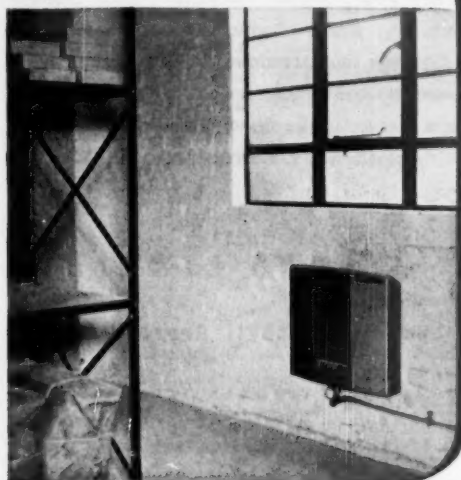
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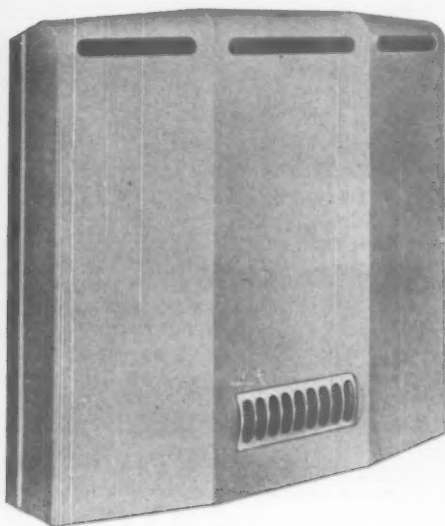
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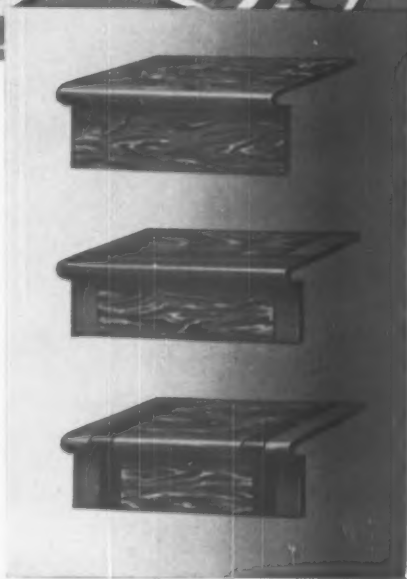


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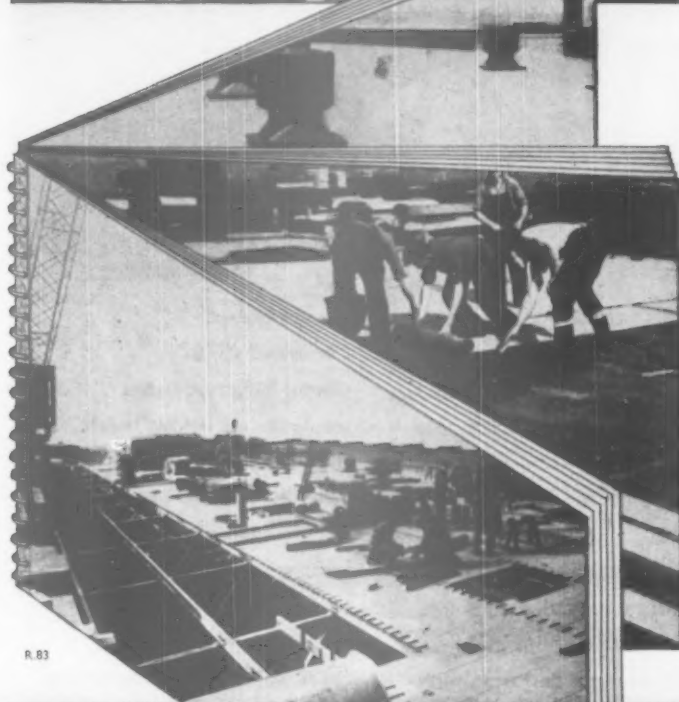
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R.83

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Details of the contract carried out at St. George's Hall, Liverpool, are contained in a special folder No. 554 available on application. Architects and Engineers are also invited to write for Catalogue No. 326 "Standard Specifications for Ruberoid Roofs."

Photographs are reproduced by the courtesy of Ronald Bradbury, Ph.D., F.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I. City Architect, Liverpool Corporation.

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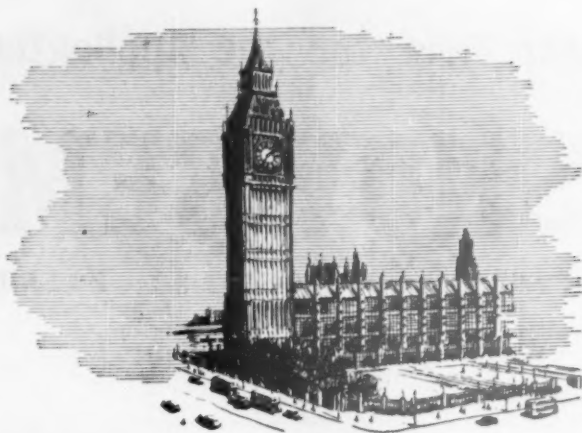
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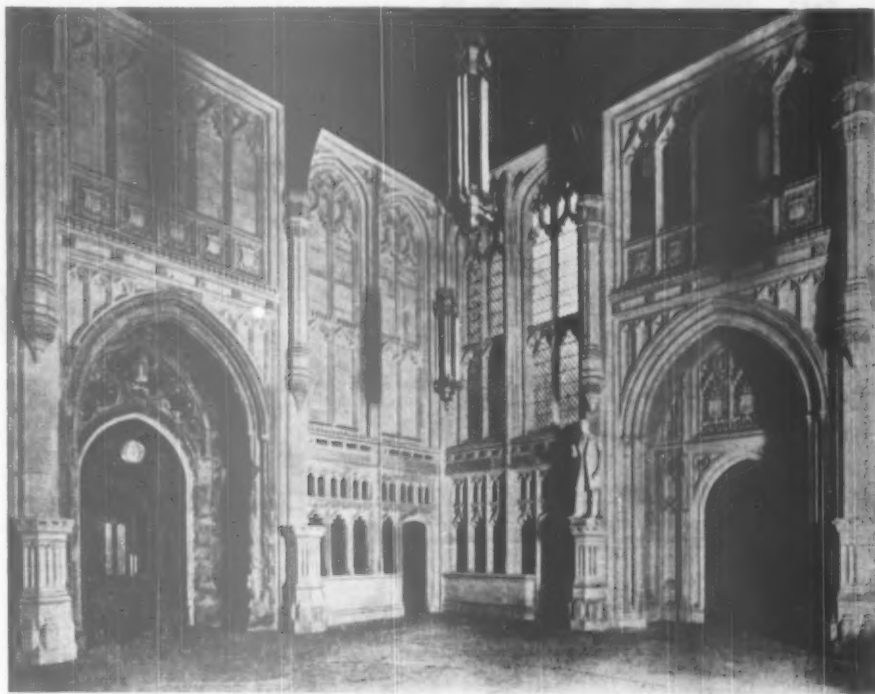
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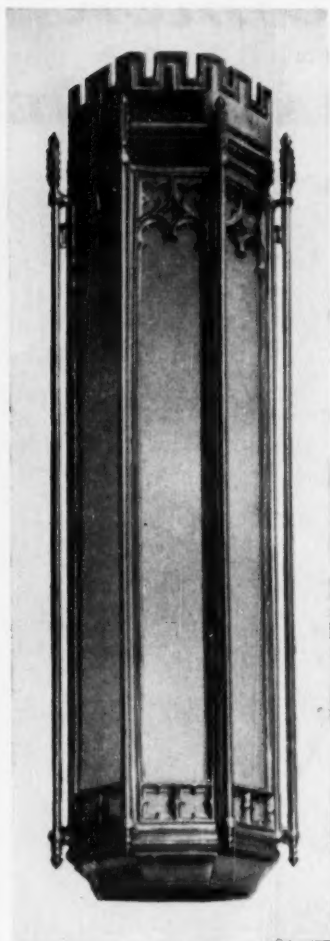
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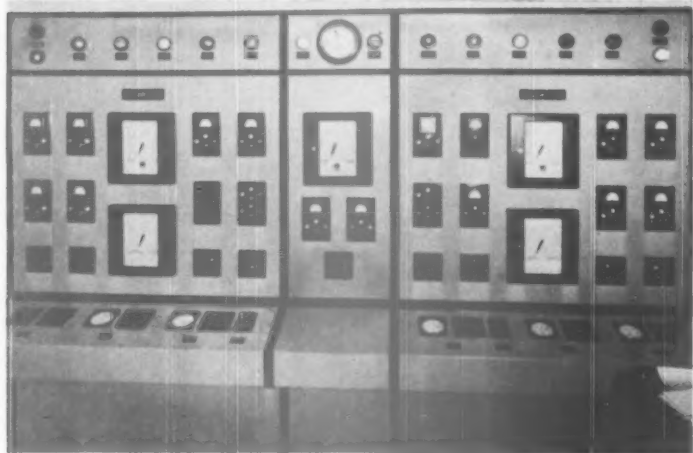


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THE ARCHITECT & BUILDING NEWS

October 27, 1950.

The "Architect and Building News" incorporates the "Architect," founded in 1869, and the "Building News," founded in 1854. The annual subscription, inland and overseas, is £2 15s. 6d. post paid; U.S.A. and Canada \$9.00. Published by ILIFFE & SONS LTD., DORSET HOUSE, STAMFORD STREET, LONDON, S.E.1. Telephone: WATERLOO 3333 (50 lines). Telegrams: "ARCHITONIA, SEDIST, LONDON."

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PLANNING THE PLANNERS

WHEN the Schuster Committee on the Qualifications of Planners was set up (as long ago as the middle of 1948) we noted, with some misgiving, that there were no technicians, no practical planners, included in its membership. The Committee has now reported* and we cannot help regarding the Report as the result of a lack of conversant knowledge of the full implications of physical planning. Laymen are not so conversant, however appreciative they may be of the results of or necessity for planning or however capable of listening to evidence.

Of all those concerned with planning there is no doubt that the profession most qualified by training and experience to grasp the full meaning of physical planning is that concerned with architecture and building; this is true at least up to the level say of the County Planning Authority—beyond that, in Regional or National Planning, the architect, though still important as a type of mind capable of the right kind of synthesis, may still have to be a prominent member of a team led by some other "Planner."

This is not altogether the view of the Schuster Committee. Its conception of three-dimensional Design—which is planning—or by whatever other term it may be known—"Town Planning," "Civic Design," "Urban Landscape," and the rest—seems, like all lay opinion, to be confined to what it can really understand—that is organization and paper plans. The major part of this Report is concerned, not with any real appreciation of the fundamentals or the results of planning, but with the type of official mechanism which shall govern the kind of mind that

"submits" itself to become a "planner." It all seems to lead to an end which will give us a docile type of person, strictly brought up to routine, to the correct ways of procedure, whose imagination is educated-out and whose initiative is controlled by Acts of Parliament. In other words, when we have got the Committee's system for educating "Planners" into full order—the term "planner" will be one that is coupled with "Civil Servant" in most people's minds. Great, imaginative design does not of course happen that way whether it be found in a bronze by Benvenuto or a *piazza* by Bernini.

This Report is a long document and, being well padded, its somewhat creaky progress is well-insulated from the average hearing. Doubtless it was felt that the subject would not be understood by the average layman unless there were quite long chapters on the "History of Planning," "The Scope of Town and Country Planning," "The Facts of the Situation." Or perhaps the lay committee itself wished to convince the interested world that it really had tried to find out what it was all about. Then, having got clear of this explanatory top-hammer, we discover the Committee posing as a real pedantic heavyweight; the basic qualifications of a chief planning officer (*italics ours*) are, it says, innate *intellect* and *character*, sound educational discipline, *some* specialist education for planning, *practical* training and *experience*. (We can imagine most selection boards' facial expressions when they add, "he better had—too!") The following are considered by the Committee also to be helpful for the advancement of thought and understanding of the subject of Town and Country Planning—(A) historical studies; (B) studies of contemporary conditions; (C) study of current day by day practice and experience; and (D) collection and analysis of results

*Report of the Committee on Qualifications of Planners. H.M.S.O., (Cmd 8059) 1950. 2/6 net.

of these studies. Well! Well!! We do wonder how such hackneyed wisdom can be sent out to the world by the very same committee which insists that the only real training for planners is that of a University general degree course. "The chief planning officer should normally have received such an education . . . he must be able to appreciate good design . . . all but exceptional persons will be better able to tackle major planning problems if they had a university education, nevertheless there are exceptions . . ." (for which last—thanks!)

Out of all this mass of words the Committee makes what it calls "our chief practical conclusion"—the need for an authoritative national institution to fulfil the purposes of education and research, settle qualifications and the granting of recognitions to qualified persons. In short, the answer is—with much heavy advice of prosy and pedantic quality—to leave it all to some new or existing body to deal with; with some mild indication that (with much reorganization and purging) this should be the Town Planning Institute; and that is where we came in.

This planner-who-is-he business seems to be basically a sort of struggle for power. The Govern-

ment and its advisers, and even the Local Authorities, are beginning to realize the immense power which lies within the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act and, through it, in the hands of Planning Officers. Therefore, the last-named gentlemen must be got on to the spot before they realize their own powers. This is the kind of outlook of most politically-minded laymen—especially those with academic, legal, or economic training and positions. On the other hand, each profession—law, finance, engineering, surveying, architectural, and so on—thinks its members are the very boys to boss the job of planning. But while they argue and hesitate amongst themselves, the political lawyers and economists manoeuvre so that, as heretofore, the key positions and the power remains with themselves to hold or to dispense.

We are inclined to think that perhaps the best, if not the only, way to establish the architect's claim as leader of a team for physical planning would be to leave each one of the new towns in the hands of a single profession to plan and get built and to see what they all look like at the end of five year periods; when the experiment ends—say at the end of twenty years—we might be a little nearer knowing the qualifications for planners—without political bias.

EVENTS AND COMMENTS

THE MOTOR SHOW

I AM not going to the Motor Show. My presence will not therefore contribute to the record crowds. New cars it appears were never scarcer,



Planting the twelve ton elm tree on the Festival of Britains site. The tree was brought by road from Winchester

old cars were never more plentiful on the road. I would like a new car. I have no money. Everyone else appears to want a new car too and they have no money either. If all restrictions on cars for the home market were removed how nice it would be to walk on their roofs from Lands End to John o' Groats. There are some very handsome new cars. The makes resemble each other more closely each year. Soon it will be impossible to tell them apart. This will probably annoy the people who have paid £3,000 for a divan on wheels which is identical in appearance with one costing £2,000.

THE NEW HOUSE OF COMMONS

BY the time this appears in print the King will have opened the new House of Commons. A week ago the National Press wrote the building up. The prominence given to the subject was, as is usual in such matters, extremely varied. It ranged from a two-column article on the correspondence page of *The Times* to no mention whatever in the *Daily Herald*.

The *Times* article written by their Architectural Correspondent, was admirable and included an historical note and a clear description of the new building, with reasons why the present design was adopted. The writer however questioned the rightness of the policy of making the new Chamber similar in layout and style to the old. He thought that the bold policy would have been to have designed a building frankly belonging to the present time. He admitted that there were arguments against such a course, and doubted whether the resources of modern architecture would allow so important a public building to achieve the dignified ceremonial atmosphere required. In general *The Times* found a conflict of ancient forms and modern functions but paid tribute both to Sir

Giles Gilbert Scott for solving many difficult problems, and to the high standard of craftsmanship of much of the work.

The *Daily Express* carried an article by their Parliamentary Correspondent in which the Chamber was likened to a giant tithe barn, the nave of a chapel, or an upturned heart of oak. Sir Giles was described as ship's master architect and as being capable of taking infinite pains. Sir Giles was reported as having said that no one "made any money out of this." The article was mainly devoted to a description of the improved conditions for pressmen and a conversation on craftsmanship with the architect.

Beverley Baxter, writing in the *Evening Standard*, thought that the Chamber was too compact and said that the first impression was of a Dutch interior.

The *Daily Mail* did not mention the architect or the architecture at all but devoted nearly a column to the mechanical installations of Dr. Oscar Faber. The now famous periscope for the engineer on duty caught the reporter's imagination; and maybe there is a moral in that.

The *Daily Telegraph*, as one might expect, stressed the traditional aspect on the craftsmanship of the work. The *Daily Mirror*, looking for a heart throb, made a headline of "The old men have built a new House for Britain to be proud of," basing this on a statement by Sir Giles that most of the stone carvers were old men, some of whom had come back from retirement to work on the job. According to this reporter "for a few moments these craftsmen had their reward in the shining, emotional eyes of the politicians who stood in the Lobby." Later, doubtless swallowing hard and fighting back the tears he wrote "they—the visitors—were filled with happiness and awe that in this day and age the hands of a few old men could softly coax tradition, memories, splendour, security and fine hopes out of stone and wood." Excuse me, while I blow my nose.

The *Birmingham Post* referred to Sir Giles' "science in the use of space" but expressed faint disappointment with the Chamber "so new, so softly coloured, so smoothly and winningly efficient." The writer even went so far as to refer to it as "this modernistic chamber" which reminded me of those with ducks-head handles which I saw at the B.I.F. last year.

The *Yorkshire Post* talked of the compromise between old and new and "the new dynamic strength and beauty" which Sir Giles has given to the Chamber. The *Manchester Guardian* in comment and two-column article referred several times to mock Gothic and praised the craftsmanship while staying aloof from giving an opinion on the architecture. The *Glasgow Herald* headed a column "Symbolism of New Commons" and praised the achievement. "Gothic in style," it said "the new House harmonises discreetly—almost imperceptibly—with Sir Charles Barry's world famous Westminster sky line." I do not think that that was quite what the writer meant.

I think it is now safe to reveal that some time ago I paid an unofficial visit to the new buildings. I did not envy Sir Giles his task and I wondered who else could have done it so well. Generalisation on so involved a problem seemed to be quite out of the question. The excellence of the craftsmanship is unquestionable but I raise an eyebrow (and purse my lips) at Gothic folding doors to telephone boxes and I did not like at all the lighting fittings in the corridors.

Much has been made of the heating and air conditioning installation but all will depend on the skill of the man who looks through that periscope.



Photo: Lefevre Gallery

"Still Life," one in the paintings of the Ben Nicholson exhibition at the Lefevre Gallery in Bruton Street. The exhibition, which closes at the end of the month, is one to be seen.

THE FESTIVAL

IF I were to comment on every press handout now issuing from the Festival office I should require the whole of the paper and you would be as bored as I. Summaries of the most interesting must in future suffice.

Work has begun at Poplar on the temporary buildings which will form part of the Live Architecture exhibition there. These buildings will include a "crazy house" illustrating the defects of building without science.

The *Campania* is nearly ready to receive its furnishings and exhibits, and the contract for the work has been let to a well known firm of ship furnishers. The main exhibition space in the hangar will be 520 ft. by 70 ft.

The South Bank Vertical Feature is under construction and in the same paragraph is described as being "similar to a church steeple in token of aspiration," and a shining "Totem" beckoning visitors from afar. Mr. Felix Samuely is collaborating with the architects Messrs. Powell and Moya, and the Exhibition engineers, Messrs. Freeman Fox and Partners. Pilkingtons have made a piece of 1/2 in. plate glass fifty feet by eight feet. It is, as I write, on its way to the site by road. I wonder if they have any spares for this the largest window in the world.

MR. BLANDINGS AGAIN

A NEW book about Mr. Blandings of dream house fame, has been published in America. It tells of his adventures in his effort to pull his weight in the community, and ends up with the return of the family to a Manhattan apartment after selling the Dream House. This is a third-hand account but doubtless the book will soon appear in this country.

THE BRITISH COUNCIL

IT is a remarkable thing that the British Council, whose sole object in life is, I believe, the spreading of information all over the world (U.S.A. excepted) on the advantages of the British Way of Life should allow itself to be housed in a stodgy neo-Georgian

lessor scheme building. I should have thought that those who control it might have made a very good case for being accommodated in one of the stately homes or spare palaces, or, better still, that something representative of contemporary architecture might have been run up specially for the purpose. Perhaps those at the top of the Council are not very sensitive to architecture.

ARCHITECTURAL FABLE

ONCE upon a time there was a rich client who went into a foreign country and returned full of enthusiasm for a spiral staircase which he had seen. Gathering his architects and engineers about him he commissioned a similar stair to be built on his estate after explaining that the particular charm of the one which he had seen was that it had no central support. His architects and engineers at first inclined to say that the task was impossible, toiled for months and after nearly giving up in despair finally produced a design which was approved and ordered. At great expense the staircase was built; meanwhile the client made a second journey to the foreign country returning hot-foot with the news that he had been mistaken. He was sorry. He had overlooked a solid central support in the original.

I think the moral of this story is: look twice before you leap.

GEORGE MARFELL

HABITUAL visitors to the R.I.B.A. will be sorry to hear that Mr. George Marfell, successively Exhibitions Secretary and Public Relations Officer to the Institute has resigned after 14 years to take up market gardening in Somerset. There was never a dull moment with Mr. Marfell. He carried all the external affairs of the Institute in his head and was one of the most helpful people I have ever had to deal with—I must remember that this is not an obituary—May all his produce win prizes.

REMINDER

IN spite of the various campaigns, correspondence in *The Times* and Parliamentary questions I would remind you that the following are still with us or remain undecided. (1) The St. Albans gasworks development; (2) Tavern Cars; (3) the lessor scheme—another building just off the Strand is announced; (4) the British Railways Starving Lion and double jube-jube insignia. I draw your attention to these things because otherwise their perpetrators may think that they have got away with it.

ABNER

NEWS OF THE WEEK

Increase Demand

The executives of the unions affiliated to the N.F.B.T.O. at a meeting at York on October 20, decided to ask for a wage increase of 6d. an hour for all grades. It was agreed at the Annual Conference of the N.F.B.T.O. to demand a "substantial wage increase."

Basildon Development Corporation—New Member

The Minister of Town and Country Planning has appointed Mr. Nicholas Davenport to be a member of Basildon Development Corporation.

Mr. Davenport is a director of the National Mutual Life Assurance Society and a member of the Stock Exchange. From 1945-1948 he was a member of the Chancellor of the Exchequer's National Investment Council.

Mr. Hugh Dalton, Minister of Town and Country Planning, has decided to allow the National Coal Board to extend their colliery tip on to a site opposite a terrace of houses at Bwlfa Road, Cwmdare, Aberdare, but has imposed conditions designed to keep the height of the tip well below road level and to prevent unnecessary nuisance from noise and dust.

The decision follows the holding of a Public Inquiry on June 20, 1950, at the Little Theatre, Godlys, Aberdare, Glamorgan.

A supper of the Architecture Club was held at the Architectural Association, Bedford Square, on Thursday, October 19, Viscount Escher presiding, and was followed by a discussion on "Follies," opened, with illustrations, by Mr. H. S. Goodhart-Rendel, F.R.I.B.A., and Mr. Osbert Lancaster.

Northern Ireland Competition

The Royal Society of Ulster Architects in association with the Council for the Encouragement of Music and the Arts (Northern Ireland) invite Architects or students to submit designs in competition for: (a) A Seaside Hotel; Premiums—£200, £100, £50; (b) A Recreation Centre, Premiums—£100, £50, £25.

Assessor: Desmond Fitzgerald, B.A.R.C.H., M.R.I.A.I., A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I. Last date for submitting designs: March 31, 1951.

Entry is restricted to persons born or normally resident in Northern Ireland.

A.A. Exhibition

The Exhibition of Members' Sketches at 36 Bedford Square opened on Wednesday, and remains open until November 24 between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m.-2 p.m.).

The new building workshops of Liverpool College of Technology, Department of Building, was opened on Monday by Alderman J. Williams, J.P., Chairman of the City Education Committee.

Civil Engineering Dispute

The Ministry of Labour and National Service states that following unsuccessful negotiations between the parties, the Minister of Labour and National Service has appointed a Committee to inquire into and report on the claim of the Federation of Building Trade Operatives that building craftsmen and attendant labourers

employed by members of the Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors should receive the same rates and conditions as those governing corresponding work in the building industry.

The Committee will consist of Sir John Forster, K.B.E., K.C., Mr. Geoffrey Marchand, C.B.E., and Mr. James Campbell. The hearing, which will be in private, began on October 25 in London.

At Bow Street Court on Tuesday, Wates South Western Estates, London Road, Norbury, and Mr. Raglan Squire, F.R.I.B.A., of Piccadilly, were sent for trial at the Central Criminal Court on a charge that in the conversion of Gatti's Restaurant, Adelaide Street, Strand, into the Nuffield Centre, out of a total work cost of £54,000, approximately £29,000 worth was carried out without a licence.

The first permanent aluminium £500 house was completed in Perth on October 20 by workmen on the staff of Robert G. Tarran and Son Limited. On the following Sunday 7,000 visitors from all over Scotland inspected the house.

The Department of Health for Scotland has turned down the house, on the grounds that it does not meet the requirements of the Government's housing policy. The answer of the builder is that mass production methods offer the only solution to the problem of producing cheap houses. The Dorrans permanent aluminium house is a semi-detached bungalow type house. It has a living room, two bedrooms with built-in wardrobes, a

kitchen with electric cooker, electric wash boiler, tub and sink, pantry and dry storage cupboard. Off the kitchen there is a shower but no bath. There is an outside w.c., with pram shed. It is largely on the lack of the bath and outside sanitation that the authorities reject the Dorrans house, but argument advanced by Tarran is that the costs would jump immediately these were incorporated within the unit. Eight men can erect a block of two houses in eight hours. Average life is given as 60 years and rental as 9s. per week.

It is claimed that if a substantial order were placed the cost per house could be reduced to £400. Plans are now being prepared for a two-storey house, cost of which is estimated at 10 per cent. more than that of the single storey unit.

Advisory Committee on Ironstone Restoration

Mr. Hugh Dalton, Minister of Town and Country Planning, has set up an Advisory Committee to assist him in carrying out the policy on ironstone restoration set out in his statement in the House of Commons on July 4.

The Committee will advise the Minister on the standards of restoration to be required in the more difficult cases and the cost likely to be incurred.

Sir Henry Prior, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., Controller of the North Midlands Region of the Ministry of Town and Country Planning, will be Chairman of the Committee.

The Committee's terms of reference will be:

"To advise the Minister of Town and Country Planning when requested by him to do so, on:

(a) The after-treatment conditions to be attached, in particular cases, to permissions under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, to win and work ironstone by opencast methods; and/or

(b) the additional expenditure likely to be reasonably incurred in complying with any such after-treatment conditions."

In his statement in the House, the Minister said that apart from a limited amount of afforestation, there would be a complete restoration of the land, with replacement of topsoil, except:

(a) Where the length of the working face would make the cost of replacing topsoil very high, or

(b) where the content of the overburden made restoration to agricultural use impracticable.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. S. P. Jordan, A.R.I.B.A., M.S.I.A., DIP.T.P., has removed from 7 Hobart Place, S.W.1, and is now in practice at 11 King's Road, Sloane Square, London, S.W.3 (Telephone: SLOane 9367), where he will be pleased to receive trade catalogues and all professional correspondence. Mr. Jordan's association with Gaby Schreiber & Associates has been terminated by mutual consent.

Colonial Architects and Engineers at the B.R.S.

Architects and engineers in the Colonial Service recently attended a ten-day course at the Building Research Station, D.S.I.R., near Watford. The course was held by arrangement with the Colonial Office.

The officers were shown some of the ways in which the Station can assist colonial builders by means of films, talks and practical demonstrations. Visits were made to the Department's Forest Products Research Laboratory and to the Cement and Concrete Association's experimental station. To enable the officers to see some recent building work, visits were also arranged to the London County Council's Lansbury housing site, Poplar, some Hertfordshire County Council's schools, and the Building Research Station's own experimental building site.

Architects and engineers from East and West Africa, Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland, Malta, Mauritius, British Honduras and St. Vincent attended the course, which was organised by Mr. G. Anthony Atkinson, the Station's Colonial Liaison Officer.

CORRECTION

On page 431 in last week's issue the North point has been reversed. That on page 430 is correct.



Photo: John McCann

This notice board has been erected by Hornsey Borough Council at various roadside gardens. It was designed by the Borough Engineer, Mr. J. H. Melville Richards, A.M.I.C.E., M.I.Mun.E., A.M.I.Struct.E., and made in the Parks Dept. Workshops. The standard and frame are in oak. The panel is painted grey-green with lettering in white and the Borough crest in crimson, green, white and gold.

Partial Reversion of Softwood to Private Trade

The Board of Trade have decided that in the present position of the world timber trade it is right to allow a measure of private trade in the import of softwood and mining timber, which have been publicly bought since 1939. Timber Control will continue to buy in hard currency areas and will also be responsible for importation from timber-supplying countries in Eastern Europe. A licence signed on October 11 allows anyone to open negotiations with exporters in Sweden, Finland, France and Austria, and various other soft currency countries for softwood to arrive on or after January 1, 1951. Full details of the scheme have been circulated to the trade.

This scheme in no way affects the licensing of softwood to consumers. The timber position does not allow of any relaxation of control of the use of softwood, and all necessary measures to ensure this control will continue to be rigorously enforced.

COMING EVENTS

L.C.C.

● October 31, at 7 p.m. At the Geffryre Museum, Kingsland Road, E.2. "The 20th Century—Taste and Authority." Speaker: John Summerson.

T. & C.P.A.

● November 1, at 6.15 p.m. "The Dangers of the Development Plans." Speaker: W. O. Humphrey.
November 2, at 6.13 p.m. Students' Planning Group, Annual General Meeting. Speaker: Lord Silkin.

T.P.I.

● November 2, at 6 p.m. At Caxton Hall, Westminster. Installation of Lt.-Col. H. P. Cart de Lafontaine as President, and Presidential Address.

Institute of Registered Architects

● November 3, at 6.30 p.m. At the Royal Society of Arts. "The Impact of Atomic Energy on Architecture." Speaker: E. J. Jefferies.

Institution of Heating and Ventilating Engineers

● November 1, at 6.30 p.m. At the Lecture Theatre, Nottingham. "The Heating and Air Conditioning of the House of Commons." Speaker: J. R. Kell.

R.S.A.

● November 1, at 2.30 p.m. "Celebrating a Great Centenary." Speaker: E. W. Goodale.

EXHIBITIONS

● October 25–November 24. Architectural Association. Exhibition of Members' Holiday Sketches.

Arts and Crafts

● An exhibition will be held by the Arts and Crafts Exhibition Society in the Victoria and Albert Museum from November 1 to December 3; to be opened by The Lady Patricia Ramsay during the Private View on Tuesday, October 31, at 3 o'clock.



WHAT is happening to the blitz sites in Central London?

The answer in some cases is given in these photographs specially taken for the A. & B. N. by Westwood & Johnson. The top picture, taken near Ludgate Hill, shows a bomb-site now used for the exhibition of rustic embellishments and love-some garden ornaments where the

office worker can stroll in the daytime while at night perhaps the wee folk dance . . . The secluded garden with the lily-pool is within earshot of Cannon Street Station, and although rather elaborate, recalls Frank Lloyd Wright's wish that grass could have been planted wherever a bomb had fallen.

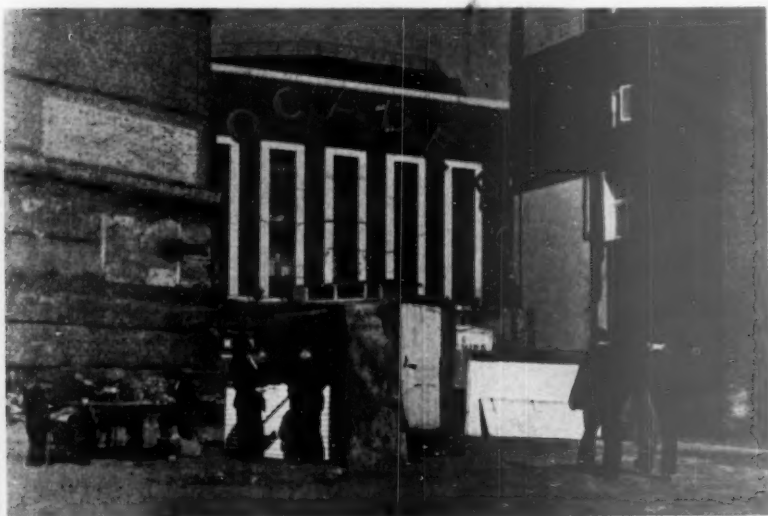


Space, Time and No Architecture

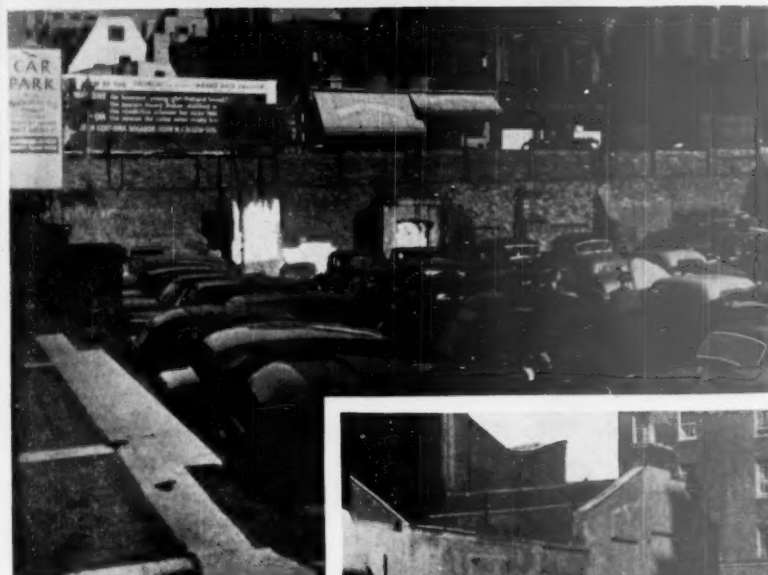
Another view off Ludgate Hill. In the space between the desert and the sown, clerks and typists can be seen relaxing in the sun. It has taken a war to provide them with this simple recreation. Land worth more money an acre than any other in the country is now treated as a common.



Tottenham Court Road is where these particular caravans have rested. They are unoccupied, of course, although if they were to be it would cause little surprise, so inured have we become to the incongruous.



This place is near the Elephant & Castle. Private enterprise in the form of a coffee stall, has rushed in where angels feared to tread.



The middle photograph shows one of the more obvious uses for a blitz site. This particular car park is off Conduit Street.

In a gap left by a bombed house in Bryanston Square a hard tennis court has been squeezed in. Bowls, Archery, Skittles all require spaces of different dimensions and somewhere the site is waiting.





The Walrus and the Carpenter
Were walking close at hand;
They wept like anything to see
Acres of vacant land,
"If all the plans were realised"
They said, "It would be grand."

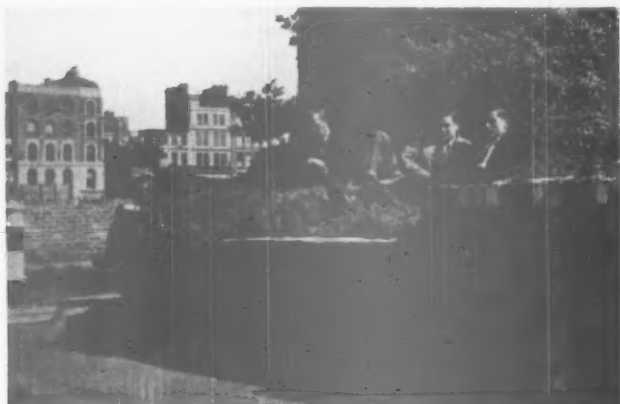
Rosner (with apologies to
Carroll and Tenniel.)



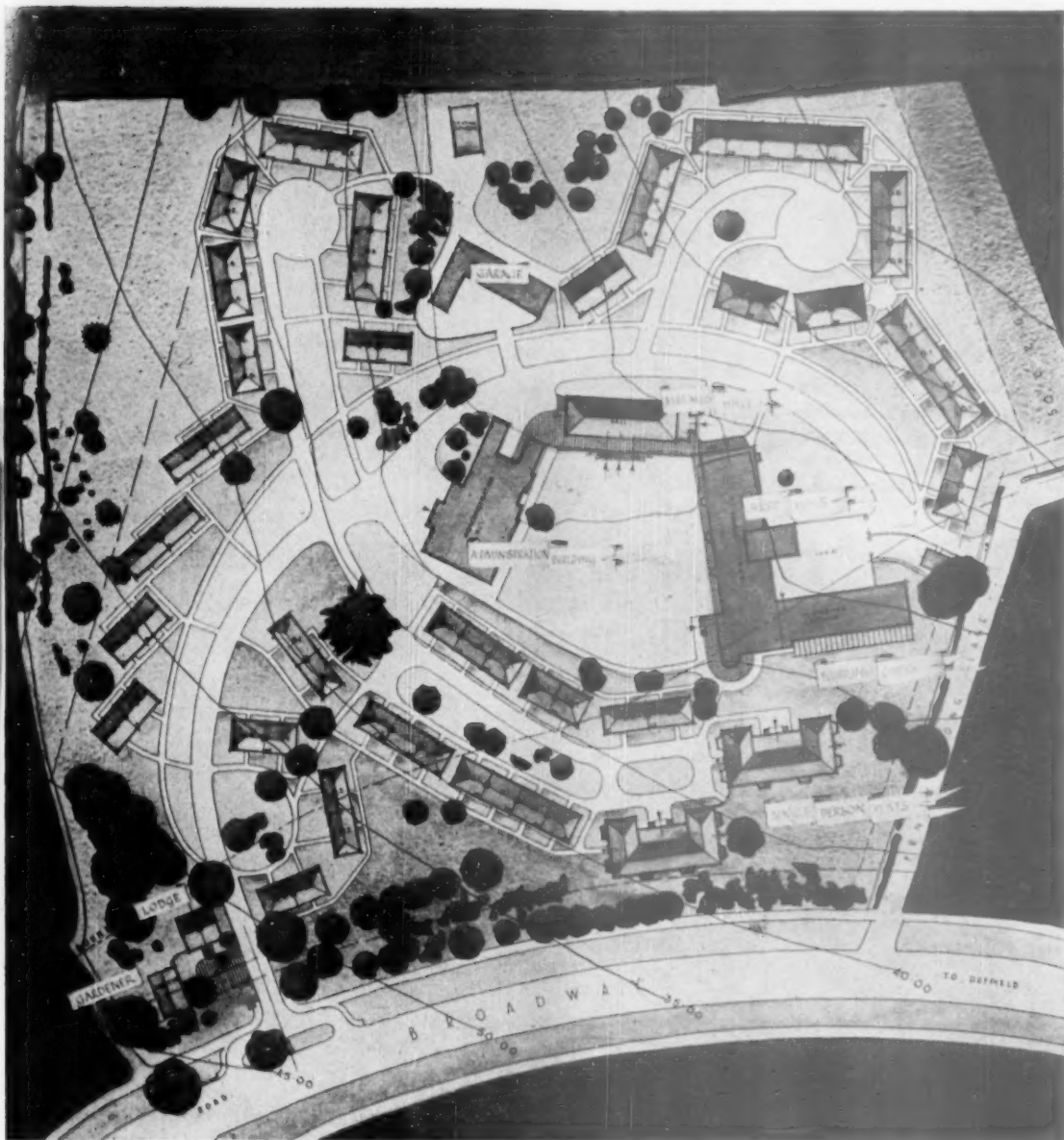
space, time
and no
architecture



The foreground in the top picture appears to be a botanist's preserve. In a few years when rabbits and badgers come back, perhaps section 29 of the Night Poaching Act may have to be invoked once more!



The site nearer to St. Paul's has been levelled up tidily. Only deck chairs are missing. Meanwhile office workers rough it in the undergrowth. These are the people who will resent rebuilding unless adequate provision is made for them to sit out and eat their sandwiches at midday, as people do outside the National Gallery.



BUILDINGS AND ACCOMMODATION ON THE ABOVE SITE PLAN:

ADMINISTRATION BLOCK: Public Recreation Rooms on ground floor
Staff quarters on first floor

LIVING ACCOMMODATION: 67 cottages, 2 persons ... 134
24 single person flats ... 24

NURSING COTTAGE: 13 bed-sitting rooms ... 13

REST HOME: 10 ward beds ... 10

Housekeeper's bed-sitting room ... 1

Gardener's cottage ... 3

Lodge-keeper's cottage ... 3

Total No. of Persons ... 188

OLD PEOPLE'S HOME, LEYLANDS ESTATE, DERBY



OLD PEOPLE'S HOME LEYLANDS ESTATE, DERBY for the Linen and Woollen Drapers' Institution and Cottage Homes

ARCHITECT: T. P. BENNETT & SON

THE Leylands Estate on the outskirts of Derby is being developed as an Old People's Home by the Linen and Woollen Drapers' Institution and Cottage Homes. The Institution provides homes and assistance for old people in the Drapery Trade, and it has decided that its War Memorial should be in the form of a New Home at Derby to supplement that already existing in Mill Hill.

The ideal is that every old person should have a home of their own as long as they are physically able to maintain it, and for such people the cottages on the Estate are provided, each cottage consisting of a living room, bedroom, kitchen and bathroom, designed to take one or two people, as a certain number of married or related couples come to the Homes, but it is not the intention of the Institution that strangers should share accommodation.

Twenty-four flats are provided in two blocks, each flat consists of one bed-sitting room with a small kitchenette, and with communal facilities in each block. These are for older people who either do not wish to have a cottage or who would not be able to maintain it.

As the people get older it has been found from experience on the Mill Hill Estate that they reach a stage at which they are no longer able to look after their own premises, but are still able to do a certain number

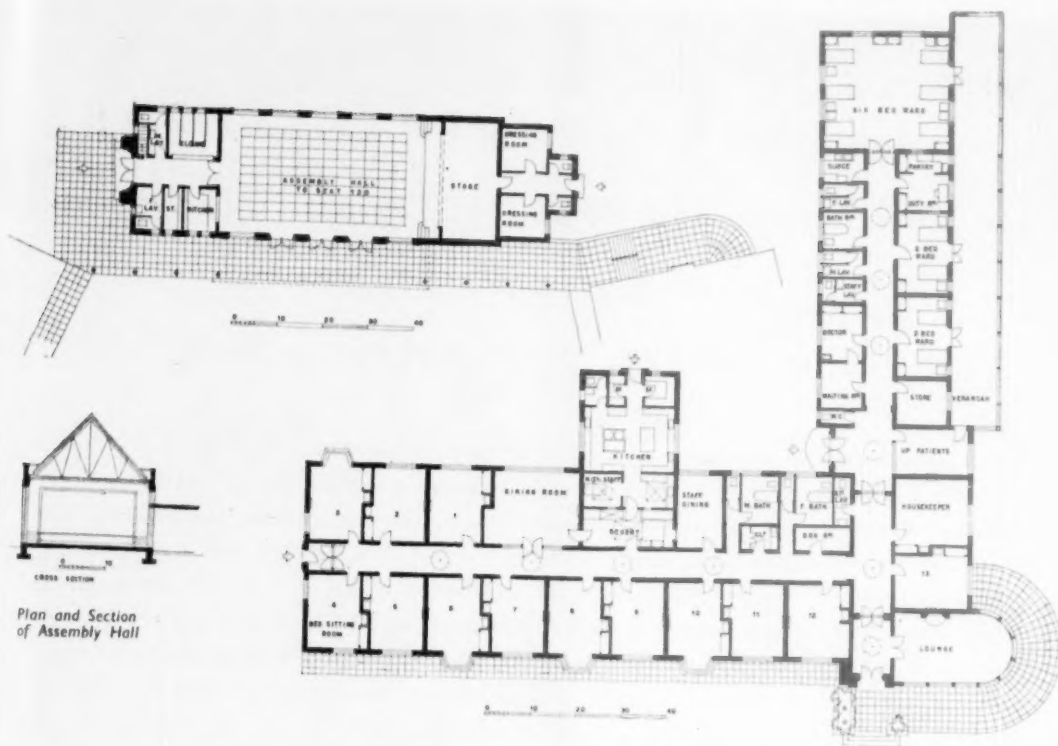
of things for themselves, and for this purpose a Rest Home with 16 beds has been provided in which each person has their own bed-sitting room, with communal bathing and dining facilities. This is combined with the Nursing Cottage in which sick or bedridden patients are cared for; the nursing staff is available at all times for those in the Rest Home who may require assistance in dressing, moving about the home, or bathing, etc.

A hall for social activities forms part of the scheme. Shows will be provided from time to time and religious services may be held there.

The site (which slopes from North-East to South-West) formed the grounds of an existing country house, which is being retained to provide some accommodation and central staff quarters.

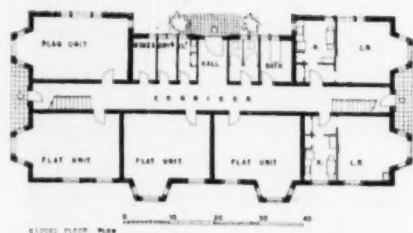
The layout has been carefully arranged to retain as much as possible of the existing gardens and trees, a number of which are very fine and will provide a very pleasant setting for the building.

The cottages generally are of traditional construction and it is intended that each cottage should have an open fireplace in the living room, but that background central heating should be provided throughout the Estate. The provision of centralised hot water system is being examined.



Plan and Section
of Assembly Hall

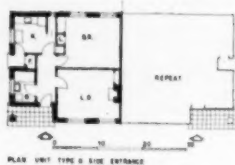
Plan of Rest Home and Nursing Cottage



Single person flats



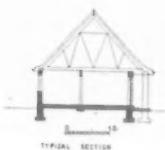
PLAN TYPE B1



PLAN UNIT TYPE D SIDE ENTRANCE

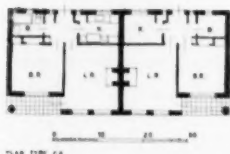


PLAN UNIT TYPE D BACK ENTRANCE

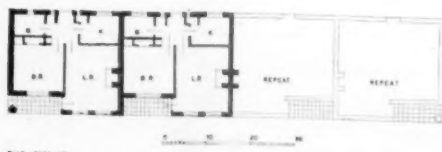


TYPICAL SECTION

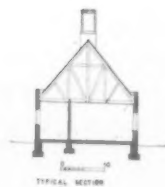
Plans and Sections
of typical
Cottages



PLAN TYPE C2



PLAN TYPE C1



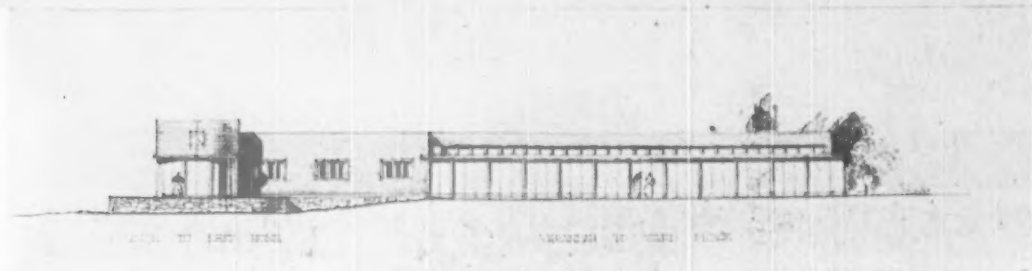
TYPICAL SECTION



WEST ELEVATION OF ASSEMBLY HALL

EAST ELEVATION OF REST HOME

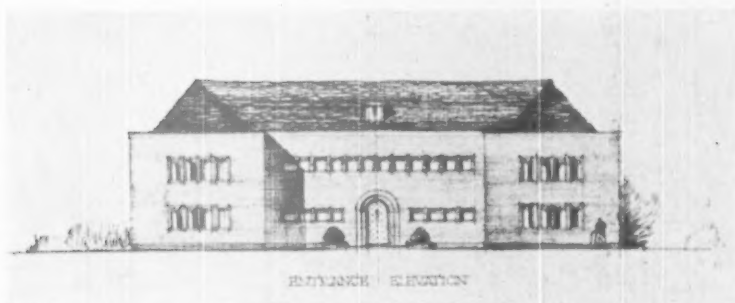
ELEVATION TO REST HOME AND NURSING COTTAGE



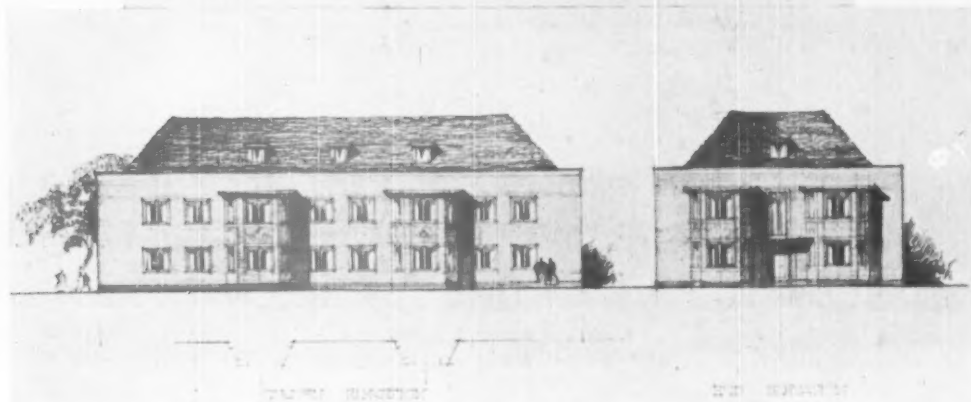
ELEVATION TO REST HOME

ELEVATION TO REST HOME

Assembly Hall, Rest Home and Nursing Cottage



ELEVATION TO REST HOME



ELEVATION TO REST HOME

ELEVATION TO REST HOME

Single person flats

OLD PEOPLE'S HOME, LEYLANDS ESTATE, DERBY



FRONT ELEVATION TYPE C1



FRONT ELEVATION TYPE C2



REAR ELEVATION TYPE C3

FRONT ELEVATION TYPE C3



TERRACE OF FIVE HOUSES TYPE D1

END ELEVATION



FRONT ELEVATION TYPE D2



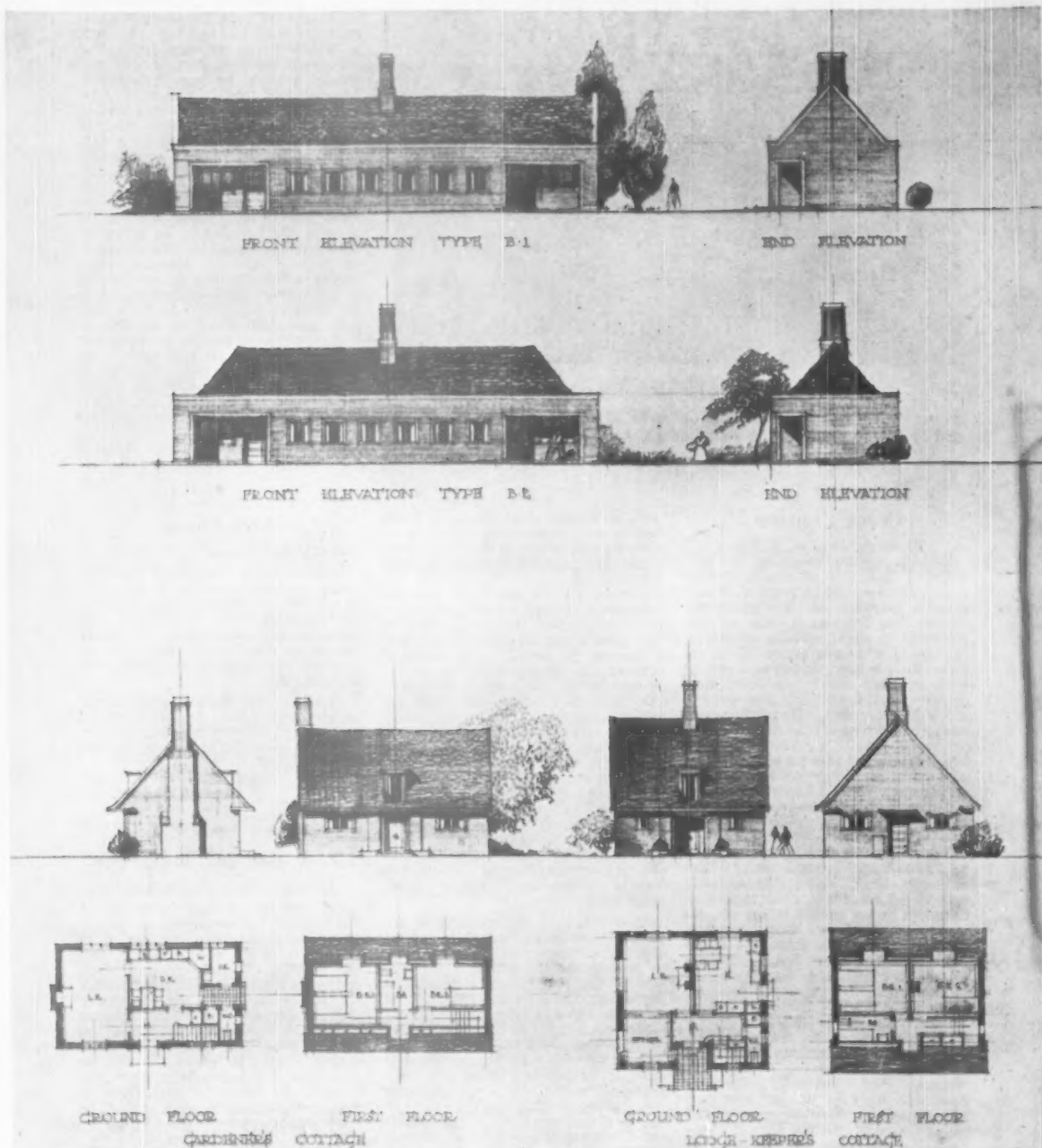
FRONT ELEVATION TYPE D3



FRONT ELEVATION TYPE D4

The cottages are traditional in character. On this page and that facing are shown a number of designs for the elevations

OLD PEOPLE'S HOME, LEYLANDS ESTATE, DERBY



Each cottage contains living room, bedroom, kitchen and bathroom. Cottage plans are shown on page 460.

ARCHITECT: T. P. BENNETT & SON

C O R R E S P O N D E N C E



READER'S HOLIDAY PHOTOGRAPH

A distant view from the South of Le Corbusier's Unité d'habitation, Marseilles, sent by R. D. Butterell of Liverpool School of Architecture

Peace Petition

To the Editor of A. & B.N.

Sir,—In contradistinction to Mr. Topp, I feel that it was extremely gratifying to see that a number of very eminent members of the profession utilised your columns in order to urge architects to adopt attitudes of greater responsibility than hitherto. It is unfortunate, however, that in so doing, in spite of their good intentions, they demonstrated the truism that when a specialist pronounces upon matters not connected with his special field, he tends to put his foot in it. The demand to which it is urged that we give our support contains certain political contradictions to which it is important to draw attention if we are to arrive at a consequent and socially responsible position as architects.

The demand is that atomic weapons be banned and brought under international control. Banning immediately calls for an act of law, which implies an executive power to ensure the observance of this law, and thus, concretely in this instance, the formation of an international police force powerful enough to enforce the discontinuation of the production of atomic weapons (why is the demand limited to atomic weapons and not extended to include all armaments? The answer to this question is, as we shall see, the clue to the whole business). With what weapons, then, must such a force be equipped in order to be effective? The answer is obviously bigger and better weapons. In the present alignment of forces, there is no doubt which power is equipped with the bigger and better weapons, and thus, which is the only power in a position to do any banning which might be required. Since, however, the much coveted position of international policeman is precisely the prize for which the present "cold" war, with unfortunately all too

realistic Korean stage effects, is being fought and furthermore, since it is America's superiority in atomic weapons which constitutes the decisive obstacle to Russia's bid for this prize, it is not surprising that the demand in question emanates from the Communist Party. It thus becomes clear that the demand to ban atomic weapons, while ostensibly a demand for peace, is in reality a demand for the intensification of the present "cold" war which is leading to the "hot" war which will mean the end of civilisation. We should therefore be very wary of including Communists under the category of "men of good will", the more especially so since the content of their "good will" has been decisively demonstrated in every action in which the Communist Party has participated, outstanding among which is the Stalin-Hitler pact which precipitated the second world war and the present enslavement of Eastern Europe. Peace lover indeed, "comrade" Stalin!

If it is argued that the will of the people is a sufficient weapon to enforce the discontinuation of the production of armaments, the answer is that the will of the people can find effective expression, not on worthless scraps of paper such as a peace petition, but only when canalised into effective action independently of those who prove by their continued war preparation, recruiting drives, and armament production that the will of the people is not a matter of any special concern to them. Since war and what it involves is the direct negation of the social function of our profession, we as architects are surely included among the people. It is therefore as architects that we must register our protest.

Our job is to provide the people with a suitable environment in which to carry on their social life. To do this we need large quantities of materials,

labour and machinery, but within the framework of war preparations these are being denied us and our profession is rapidly being rendered redundant. We should therefore demand, not that atomic weapons be banned, but that materials and productive equipment be made available to us in order to enable us to carry out our job. This is concretely a demand in and for peace which can become an effective first step towards peace immediately architects proceed to take an inventory of resources and to investigate in public the most rational methods of utilising these resources in order to solve problems connected with shortages of houses, schools, hospitals, etc., among which methods the production of armaments is obviously not included. To warriors we should therefore say: It may be that we will not be able to hinder you for some time to come, but what you do, you do without us. In the meantime we will continue to behave as architects, in which, as not in war-making, we will be assured of the support of the great majority of the people.

I am, etc.,
S. TREVOR, BARCH. (RAND.)

*

Anti-Abner

To the Editor of A. & B.N.

Sir,—In using the pursed lips and raised eyebrow technique in his criticism of the Government Office Building at Rickmansworth last week, this geezer, Abner, appeared to waffle more than is usual with him. Why is he so disturbed about the poplar trees and the clay sub-soil?

This is a new phase in architectural commentary when the critic works himself into a state of goggling agitation about the arboreal trimmings and nature of the sub-soil.

I am, etc.,
JULIAN LEATHART.

*

Good, Bad and Indifferent

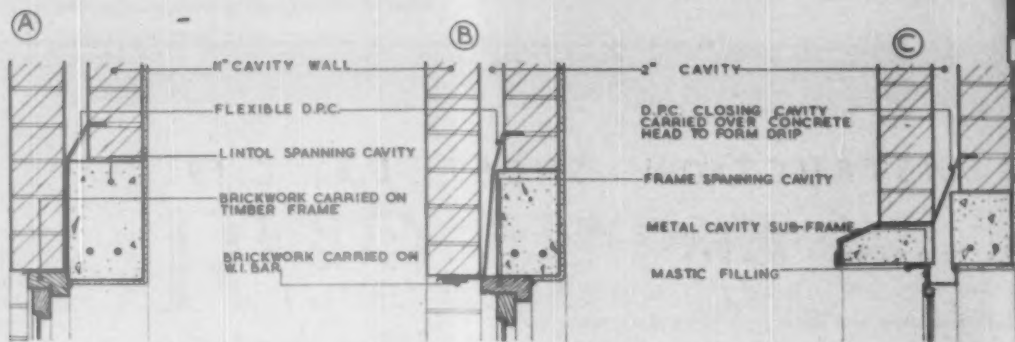
To the Editor of A. & B.N.

Sir,—As one of your subscribers, I feel I would like to express my disappointment at the discontinuance, from October 6, of the feature "Good, Bad and Indifferent." I always read it first, and found it most interesting and useful.

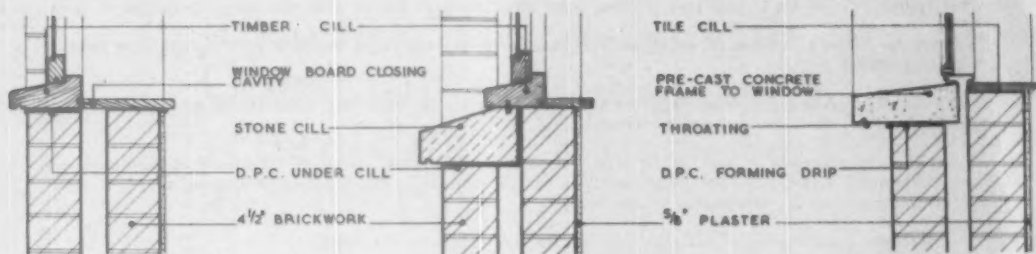
I realize that there may be strong reasons for this, but in a "Building News" one does expect some practical building features. I should have thought that the pages devoted to pictures and descriptions of huge new schools and blocks of flats, some of them unbelievably hideous, might be abbreviated a bit?

I am, etc.,
R. H. VERNEY.

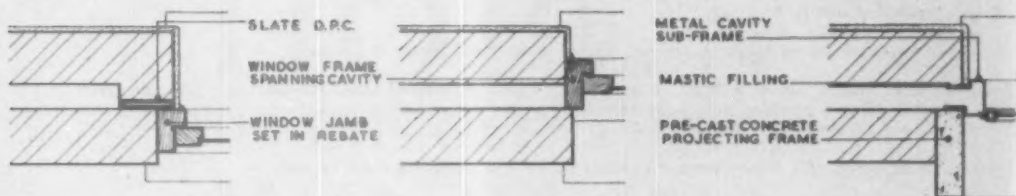
"Good, Bad and Indifferent" was a feature in the "News of the Building Industry Section" which has had to be held over during the printers' dispute. The section will reappear at the earliest possible moment. Just when depends on the printers.—Ed. A. & B.N.



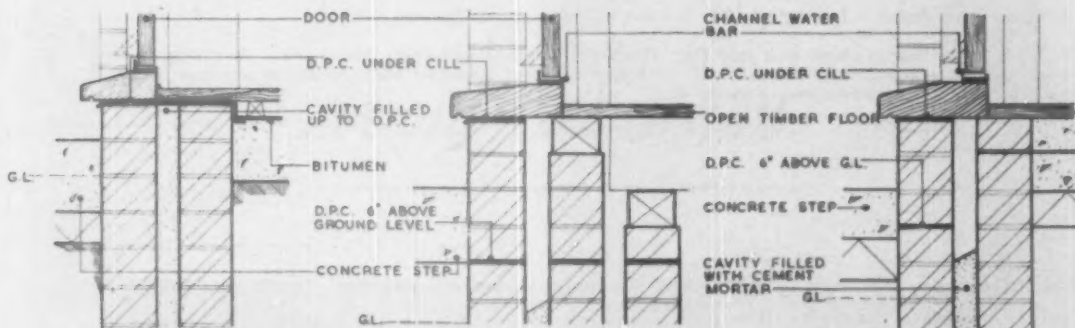
① SECTIONS THROUGH HEADS OF OPENINGS.



② SECTIONS THROUGH WINDOW CILLS



③ PLANS OF WINDOW OPENINGS.



④ SECTIONS THROUGH DOOR AT CILL LEVEL.

CONSTRUCTION SHEET L.6, C.19.

Editorial Notes

This sheet deals with openings in 11 in. brick cavity walls.

The details at (A) show a wood window and door in an 11 in. cavity wall with the frames positioned in the outer leaf of the cavity wall.

At (A1) a damp proof course is needed over the window head in order to close the cavity and direct any moisture which may collect in it to the outside face. Weep holes should be provided to allow the water to escape.

The cill is provided with a damp proof course in (A2) in order to prevent rising moisture entering the joint between the cill and brickwork.

The window jamb at (A3) is set in a rebate in the brickwork and the outer and inner leaves are separated by a damp proof course of slates set in cement mortar.

(A4) shows a section through a door at cill level. A flexible damp proof course is provided 6 in. above ground level and in this case forms the damp proof course under the door cill. The flexible damp proof course is taken under the bitumen laid as a waterproofer to the floor.

Details at (B) show a wood window and door with the members spanning the cavity.

At (B1) a wrought iron bar is needed to carry the outer 4½ in. skin of brickwork. A flexible damp proof course closes the cavity and one end is taken between the wrought iron bar and the brickwork and projects outwards to form a drip.

The stone cill at (B2) spans across the cavity, a damp proof course is therefore provided behind and underneath it, in order to prevent moisture reaching the inner leaf of the cavity. A water bar set in white lead is provided between stone and timber cills.

In (B3) the window frame spans the cavity, and no damp proof course is necessary.

An open timber floor is shown in (B4). A damp proof course is provided under the door cill. The door rests on a metal channel which is provided with weep holes to allow any water running down the face of the door to collect in the channel and escape through the weep holes.

The window details at (C) show a precast concrete frame to a window in a cavity wall.

In (C1) the damp proof course closing the cavity is taken over the concrete head and dressed over the front edge in the form of a drip. A metal cavity sub-frame is used to bridge the cavity.

In (C2) a damp proof course is provided under the throated concrete cill.

No damp proof course is required at (C3) as the cavity sub-frame bridges the cavity.

At (C4) a wood door is shown on a solid floor, the level of which is well above ground level. An additional damp proof course is provided under the door cill. In exposed positions a weather board (dotted on drawing) should be provided to throw any water away from the door.

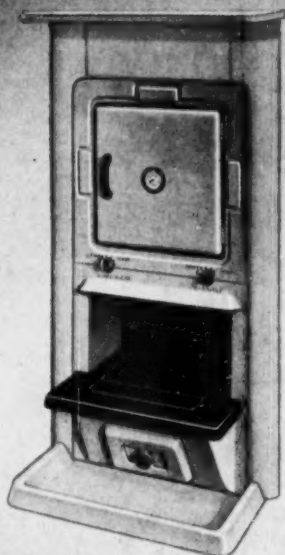
We welcome comments from readers. These will be summarised and published. Letters should reach us as early as possible to avoid time lag.

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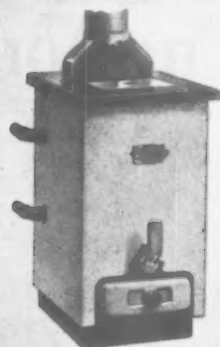
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Information Digest

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS

- **B.R.S. Digests Nos. 21 and 22.** Issued by the Building Research Station, Garston, Watford, Herts. Price 2d. each. No. 21. The Weathering, Preservation and Maintenance of National Stone Masonry (Part II).

Part (I) of this note dealt with some of the agencies that influence the weathering of building stone, Part (II) deals with the effects of certain other agencies (frost, thermal expansion and corrosion, vegetation, bacteria and staining), and discussed matters that arise in connection with the maintenance of stone masonry. Notes included on cleaning, repair and preservation of masonry, cover the points that most often call for consideration, other than those relating to major structural damage.

No. 22. Distempers on Walls and Ceilings.

Distempers form a cheap, durable and easily applied decoration for internal use on most building materials. The digest describes how to avoid defects or cure any that may arise in the application of distemper. It points out that troubles with distemper are most often due not to the material itself, but to its use on surfaces that have been insufficiently or incorrectly prepared, or in situations for which the material is unsuitable. The digest describes the various types of distemper, together with the uses and methods of application.

- **British Standards and Codes of Practice.** Issued by the British Standards Institution, 24/28 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1. ABBey 3333.

B.S. 1589: 1950. Thermal Insulating Materials—plastic composition, flexible and loose-fill. Price 2/-.

This British Standard relates to plastic, flexible and loose-fill insulating materials for central heating and hot and cold water supply installations inside a building, which may be extended to short outdoor runs of piping. It refers to insulating materials for application to hot water boilers, storage vessels, etc., and piping and fittings for working temperatures up to 180 deg. F. normally, and not exceeding 220 deg. F. at any time; and cold water storage vessels, piping and fittings, with the exception of refrigeration installations.

B.S. 340: 1950. Pre-cast Concrete Kerbs, Channels, Edging and Quadrants. Price 2/6.

The standard covers precast concrete units for kerbs, channels, edgings and quadrants in a range of sections, lengths and radii, for use in the construction of carriageways and footways.

B.S. Code of Practice. Draft Code 305. Sanitary Appliances and their Installation. Price 3/-.

The selection and installation of sanitary appliances is dealt with in this draft code. The many types of appliance in common use are described and information is given regarding the provision and installation of such units in domestic buildings, factories and public buildings. In each case the code contains advice on the types of appliances required, its situation and method of installation.

- **Ministry of Works Advisory Leaflet No. 11.** Preparing Metal Surfaces for Painting. Published by H.M.S.O., York House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2. Price 2d.

The advisory leaflets of the Ministry of Works supply in a handy form, practical information about the results of research and the latest developments in building practice. This latest issue describes in non-technical language the treatment needed before painting iron and steel, and recommends the best types of priming paints to use. Similar information is given for non-ferrous metals, aluminium, zinc, lead and copper.

- **Explanatory Pamphlet on Development Charge (England and Wales).** Central Land Board.

The pamphlet answers a number of questions concerning the Town and Country Planning Act of 1947. It explains the meaning, extent and effects of the development.

BUILDING MATERIALS

- **Concrete Practice in Building Construction.** Published by the Cement and Concrete Association, 52 Grosvenor Gardens, London, S.W.1. Sloane 5255. Free.

The object of the booklet is to give the reasons underlying the various clauses of specifications for concrete work, and in order that these clauses may be clearly understood and intelligently followed. It is a useful book for those responsible for the supervision and construction of concrete buildings.

- **Library Catalogue.** Timber Development Association Ltd. 75 Cannon Street, London, E.C.4. City 4771. Free.

The T.D.A. has collected its library over the last ten years, and now has an impressive collection of well over one thousand books, dealing with the growth, structure and properties and uses of all types of wood. These books are now available for reference and are listed in this library catalogue.

- **Report on the Structural Use of Aluminium Alloys in Building.** The Institute of Structural Engineers, 11 Upper Belgrave Street, London, S.W.1. Sloane 7128.9. 3/6.

The report deals with the use of aluminium alloys in building and should be of use to the structural engineer.

- **Non-Ferrous Metals.** Charles Clifford & Son Ltd., Dog Pool Mills, Birmingham, 30. Free.

The handbook contains a list of products of the company together with useful data on sizes and weights of the various sections.

BUILDING COMPONENTS AND EQUIPMENT

- **Hot-dip Galvanised Standard Windows.** Catalogue No. 230. Henry Hope & Sons Ltd., 17 Berners Street, London, W.1. Museum 8412. Free.

Useful information is given in Messrs. Hope's catalogue on their metal windows. The complete post-war range of standard metal windows and doors for domestic use is included, and sections cover sizes, fixing details and full size details.

- **British Construction Equipment 1950.** The Federation of Manufacturers of Contractors' Plant, River Plate House, 12 & 13 South Place, London, E.C.2. Central 0311. Free.

This book is the result of a co-operative effort by the members of the Federation to bring to the notice of the users of construction equipment all over the world, the wide range of British Construction equipment available for use in the building, civil engineering, public works and quarrying industries. The text is in English, French and Spanish and is generously illustrated. Users of the type of equipment illustrated will find the directory of great value as a reference catalogue for sources of supply in the United Kingdom.

LIGHTING AND HEATING

- **"Raylex."** Hume Atkins & Co. Ltd., 66 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1. Victoria 0161. Free.

The latest catalogue of this firm gives the range of standard Tungsten lighting fittings and convactor heaters. The fittings are well designed, and all relevant information—sizes, materials and prices, is given with each type illustrated.

- **Satchwell Temperature Control.** Rheostatic Co. Ltd., Slough, Bucks. Slough 23311.6. Free.

Illustrations are given of a wide range of thermostat and other devices for the automatic control of temperature in central heating installations, air conditioning plants, and industrial processes, together with temperature controls for the home. Sizes of the various units are given, which is most useful, and the principle on which they work is explained.

- **Lighting Fittings.** The General Electric Co. Ltd. of England, Magnet House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2. Temple Bar 8000. Free.

A few of the fittings in this brochure are pleasant and well designed (No. F.3900, for example) but the appearance of the large majority leaves much to be desired. Wrought iron lanterns and imitation candles are not the most satisfactory methods of artificial lighting to-day and this range of designs should be thoroughly reviewed and brought up to date.

MISCELLANEOUS

- **Housing Administration** by Steward Swift, M.B.E. Supplement to third edition. Published by Butterworth & Co. Ltd., Bell Yard, Temple Bar, London.

The third edition of this book was published in 1947 and the author has now published this supplement, as housing legislation is back to more normal conditions. Two Acts affecting housing have been passed since 1947, the Housing Act of 1949 and the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949. The amendments in the law and procedure relating to these matters have been included in this supplement. The author has also taken the opportunity to include other new material.

- **Simplification in British Industry.** Anglo-American Council on Productivity, 21 Tothill Street, London, S.W.1. Price 1/-.

A group of Industrialists appointed by the Anglo-American Council on Productivity have made an investigation of

simplification in industry in Britain and present their report in this pamphlet.

- **Works Information.** Federation of British Industries, 21 Tothill Street, London, S.W.1. Whitehall 6711. Free.

This booklet suggests a number of methods whereby the facts of industrial progress are passed on to the particular firm's own staff and workers.

ALSO RECEIVED

- **Present and Future Supply and Demand for Persons with Professional Qualification in Mechanical Engineers.** Published by H.M.S.O. Price 6d.
- **Iron Marches On.** Lloyds, Wellington Works, Burton-on-Trent. Free.
- **Pre-prints of Papers and Reports to be presented.** National Smoke Abatement Society. Price 2/6.
- **Distribution of Electricity. No. 182, September, 1950.** Published by W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., 95 Aldwych, London, W.C.2. Chancery 6671. Price 6d.
- **Some Notes on Alloy Steels containing Lead.** The United Steel Companies Ltd., 17 Westbourn Road, Sheffield 10. Free.
- **The Sutton Dwellings Trust.** Report and Accounts for year ending 31st December, 1949. Victoria House, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

Overseas Students' Study of the English Home

"The Evolution of the English Home" is the subject of a survey arranged by the British Council in London for a group of 15 overseas students from 12 countries.

Starting on Monday, October 23, a series of lectures was given by Mr. Eric Jarrett, A.R.I.B.A., and visits were arranged to see residences of various periods in the London area.

These included houses with historical associations as well as architectural features, such as Dr. Johnson's house, Sir John Soane's house in Lincoln's Inn Fields and Carlyle's house in Chelsea. The students also visited a modern housing estate of Westminster City Council, flats in Hampstead and Bloomsbury and a suburban house at Pinner, Middlesex.

The survey is one of a number of activities arranged by the British Council for overseas students who are already in the United Kingdom, to enable them to gain an insight into life in this country in out-of-study time.

The countries from which they come are Ceylon, Columbia, France, Finland, Gold Coast, India, Jamaica, Malaya, Nigeria, Saudi-Arabia, Switzerland and the U.S.A.

Survey of Open Country

Local Authorities are urged in a circular* issued by the Ministry of Town and Country Planning to put in hand immediately the survey of "open country" to be made under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949, and to decide what arrangements are necessary for providing access to such country.

In doing so they are asked to consider whether access to open country is already adequate for the needs of their areas and, where the public already have a right of access, whether further action is necessary. For example, there may be instances where the public already have access because of friendly understanding or mutual indifference between landowners and the public, and the Minister of Town and Country Planning thinks there will often be no need to disturb this relationship by taking formal action under the Act.

Under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside

* Ministry of Town and Country Planning Circular No. 96—*"National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949—Access to Open Country."*

Act planning authorities may make agreements with landowners to give people right of access over certain specified areas. Failing agreement, they may make access orders. The circular recommends that where agreements or orders are in force any special restrictions which they impose on public access be kept to the minimum, particularly on Bank Holidays. Provision can be made in orders for excluding the public at certain times in unforeseen circumstances—for example, when a rare bird is nesting—but it is hoped that such special restrictions will not often be imposed.

Public rights do not extend over land which is under cultivation, and local authorities are advised to issue suitable warnings to the public of this.

They are also asked to consider making byelaws if complaints are made about public behaviour on access land.

Although local authorities are given until December 16, 1951, to complete their survey, and their reports are due within a year of this date, they are asked not to wait for the maximum period to expire, but to send in the reports as soon as they are ready.

There is a special procedure for dealing with objections to orders which affect woodlands and gathering grounds, but local authorities are asked to try to reach agreement with the owners or bodies concerned before making such orders. They are also asked to consult with the local representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture before making orders or agreements which would affect agricultural land.

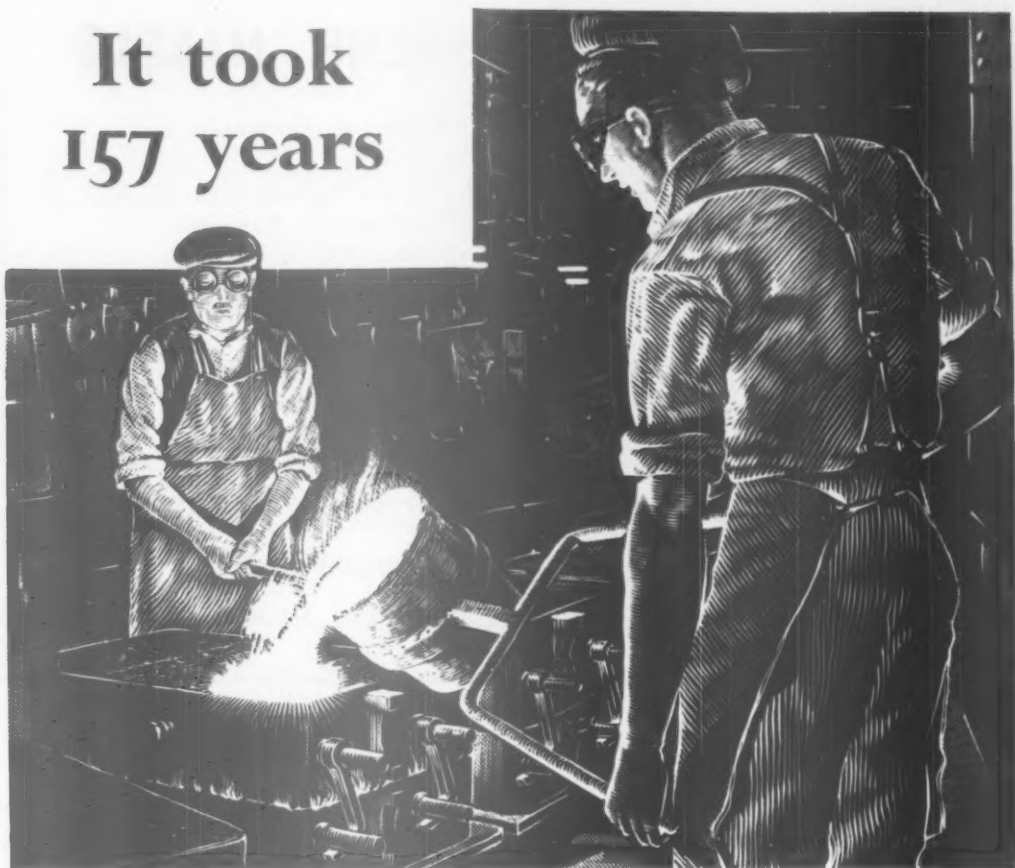
Architectural or Historic Interest Protected Against Demolition Orders

Housing and local planning authorities have been reminded in a circular* issued by the Ministry of Town and Country Planning that the Housing Act, 1949, enables houses of special architectural or historic interest to be preserved where they would otherwise have been subject to demolition orders. It also provides for financial assistance to render such houses habitable.

The Ministry have called attention to the importance of ensuring that the special character of such buildings is not injured when they are repaired or improvements are made to them. The circular also gives details of the procedure to be adopted for notifying local planning authorities of proposed works to such buildings.

* Ministry of Town and Country Planning Circular No. 98—*"Housing Act, 1949—Ministry of Health Circular 90/49—Effect on Houses of Architectural or Historic Interest."*

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O.M., R.A.

A. Gilbert Scott,
F.R.I.B.A.

Consulting Engineer:

Oscar Faber, O.B.E.,
D.C.L., D.Sc., M.Inst.C.E.

THE bomb in 1941, though doubtless deplorable, nevertheless provided an opportunity for improving the conditions in which M.P.s and their staffs had previously been compelled to work.

It might also have been an opportunity to erect a truly contemporary building.

But the new House of Commons conforms generally to the recommendations made by the Select Committee. This fact has to be borne in mind when commenting on the design. The Committee's Report states that "a Chamber of wholly novel character was ruled out by the terms of reference. A competition, therefore, could only have been held within restricted limits, and would probably have involved the Committee in the difficult and invidious task of deciding between the work of men of great distinction in their profession."

However debatable this approach to the problem may appear to the architectural profession, the new House is now a "fait accompli," and since any architect's freedom to design in a contemporary idiom would have been limited by the terms of reference, criticism would be invidious.

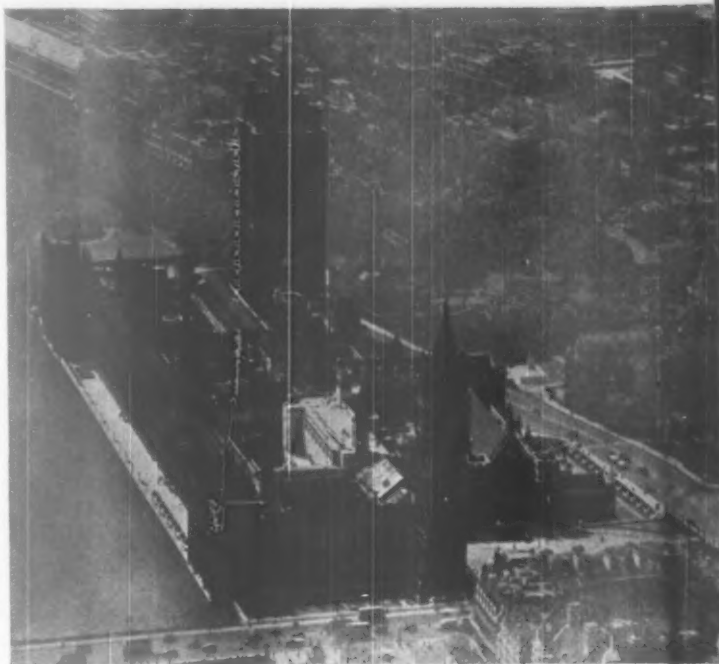


Photo: Aerolims

This aerial view illustrates clearly the space restrictions imposed by the site. The new Chamber, with its external wall facing of Clipsham stone, stands out as a temporarily bright patch amidst its more sombre neighbours. The height of the new Chamber was limited by the requirement that it should not interfere with the skyline of the other buildings designed by Sir Charles Barry.

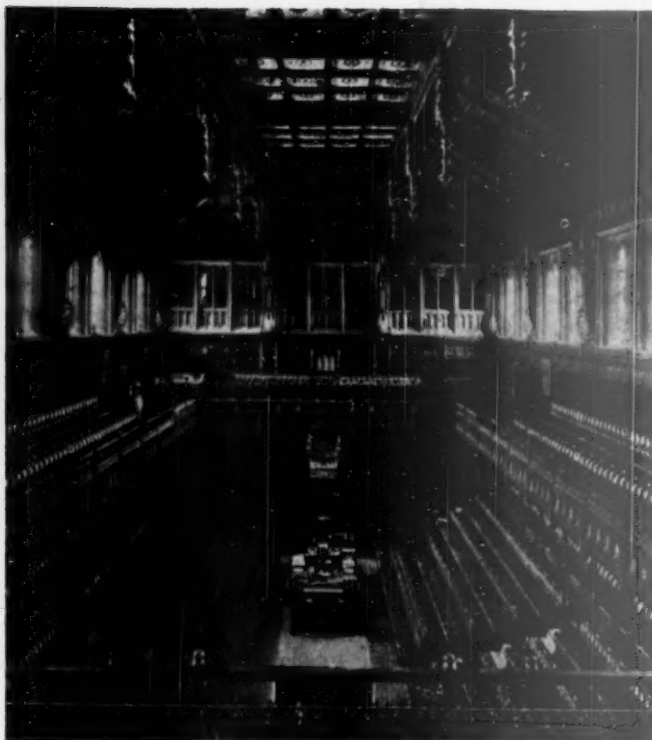
Architecturally the new Chamber is in a class by itself. Hemmed in by Gothic styled buildings, of which it forms the core, it can make little contribution to London's external architecture, except from the air. Internally the House serves a limited number of people whose comfort and working conditions are, perhaps, of more importance than public or architectural reaction. It is, therefore, on planning and services that the chief interest focuses.

If the new House satisfies the requirements of its users, it may within certain limits be described as a good building. Whether it will so satisfy remains to be seen.

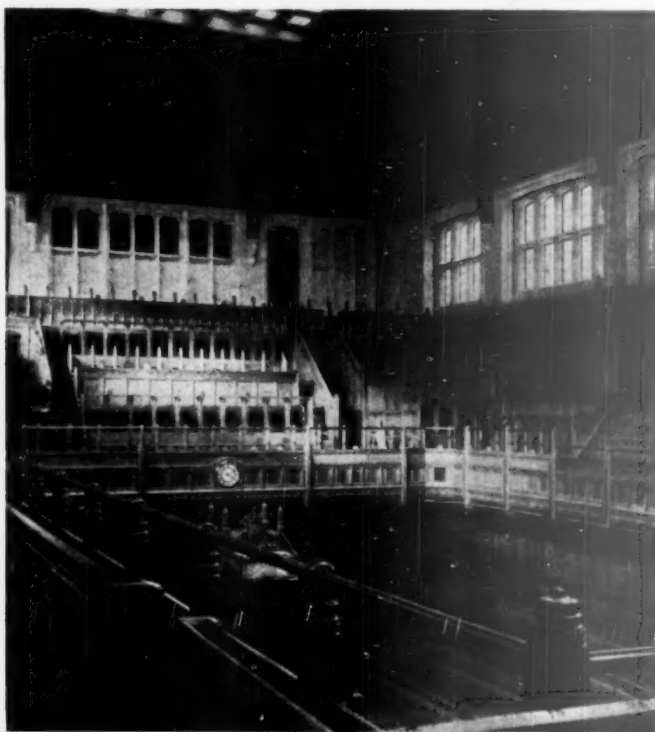
The main advantages of the new design as named by the Select Committee are:

1. Preservation of the traditional dimensions and essential features.
2. Increase of Press seats by 68 (from 93 to 161) and increase of Strangers' seats by 67 (from 259 to 326).
3. Concentration in separate galleries of reporters and Strangers.
4. Improvement of vision from all Strangers' seats.
5. A thorough up-to-date system of heating, ventilation and lighting.
6. Provision of secretarial, interviewing and conference rooms not available in the old House.
7. Improvements to Whips and Staff Offices.

Sir Giles Gilbert Scott has described this building as the most complex with which he has ever had to deal. In view of the compromise demanded by the requirements—which can briefly be summarised as concealing up-to-date construction and services beneath a traditional skin within a limited space—the architect's comment is easy to believe.



Above, the old Chamber and, below, the new: both views are taken from the Strangers' Gallery and show the different arrangement of the Press Gallery. A detail of the ingenious Press seating appears on page 470. The photograph of the old Chamber is reproduced from the Select Committee's report by kind permission of the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office.



THE old Chamber, of solid wall construction, was founded on a lime-concrete raft 5 feet thick, on which loads were fairly evenly distributed along the load bearing wall bases. The new Chamber is steel framed and the concentrated loads at the stanchions vary up to 600 tons. As two new floors were planned below the existing level of the Chamber, it was not possible to design a foundation which would carry the high stanchion load without projecting above the existing raft. The raft was therefore excavated at stanchion points, the sides of the excavation being raked at 45°. These excavations, which vary in depth up to about 3 ft. 6 ins., were lined with asphalt, specially selected for its load bearing quality. The stanchion bases of reinforced concrete, conforming to the shape of the excavation, were thus combined with the raft to spread the load.

To avoid noise on the site, all riveting was done in the shop—connections on the site being welded or bolted.

Floors are of *in situ* concrete slab or hollow tile construction, except where shuttering difficulties necessitated the use of pre-cast slabs.

The walls are faced externally with Clipsham stone, the same stone being used for internal masonry of which there is a considerable amount in arches, windows and the screens to the gallery in the Chamber.

Internally, carved and treated oak has been extensively used for principal rooms. Foyers, lobbies and staircases are treated with rough plastered finish in light cream tones.

SERVICES

Heating and Ventilating

The requirement for greater accommodation in the Chamber itself and in adjoining suites and offices not only complicated the planners' task, but increased the problems of installing the very complex system of ventilation, heating and lighting: problems which, owing to the constantly changing occupancy of various sections of the building and the individual preferences of members, have hitherto remained unsolved.*

Lighting in the Chamber

The main lighting of the Chamber is entirely by means of fluorescent lamps, both hot and cold cathode, all of which are controlled by a dimming system.

The principal source of lighting in the Chamber is provided by 150 cold cathode units mounted in the ceiling above a laylight. The five main panels of the laylight are each sub-divided into 30 smaller panels, and the whole laylight and its sub-divisions is framed in carved oak. A cold cathode unit is mounted behind every ceiling panel. The glazing of the panels is tinted oak colour so that by day the whole roof appears to be of timber, with carved ornamentation.

Each cold cathode unit consists of a sheet steel casing divided into two compartments, the lower one containing Intermediate White cold cathode tubing, and the upper one the gear.

* A detailed technical description of the services was published in *The Architect & Building News* of March 18, 1949. The article was based on a lecture by Dr. Oscar Faber given to the Institution of Structural Engineers.



Above: Top picture, one of the oak panelled division lobbies which have open coal burning fireplaces, and, lower picture, members writing room.

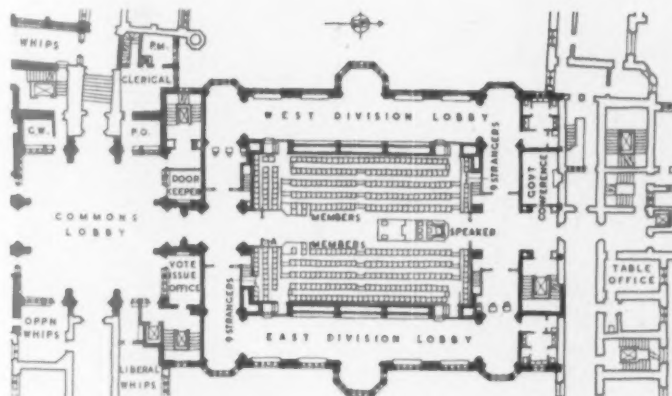
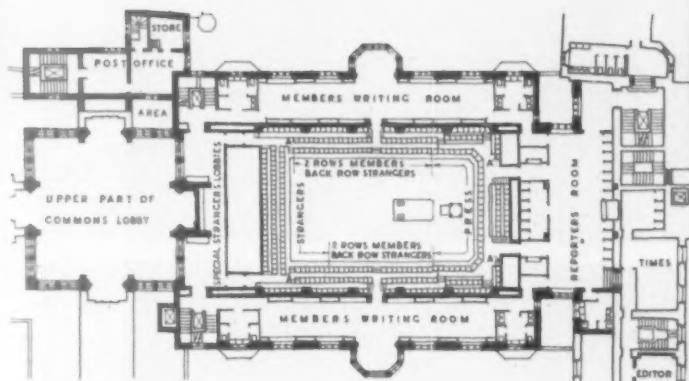
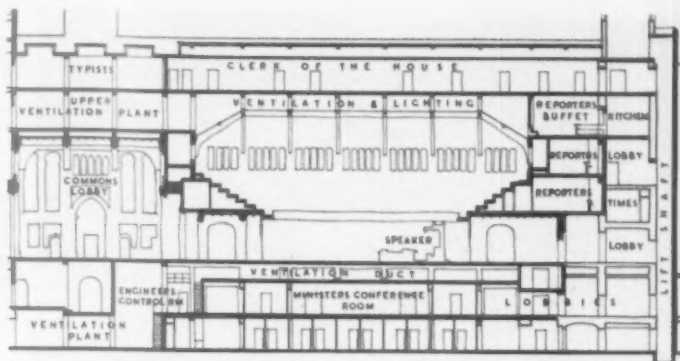
Below: The Prime Minister's Conference Room. Plans and section, right, show the detailed replanning of the seating. The floor of the new Chamber is the same size as that of the old: 68 ft. x 45 ft. 6 in. Above the gallery level dimensions have been increased from 84 ft. in length to 103 ft. and from 46 ft. 6 in. in width to 48 ft. The clear height from floor to lantern is 46 ft.

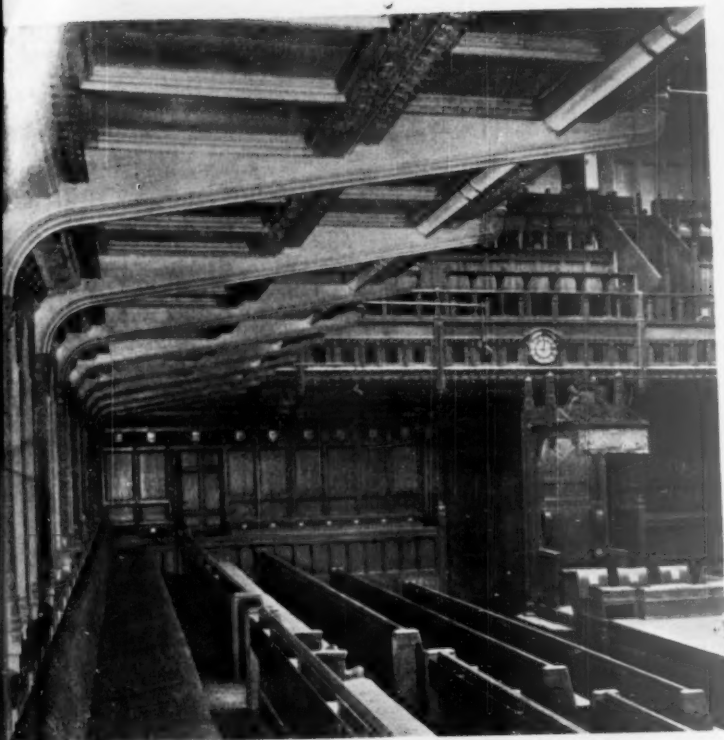
Facilities for reporters have been improved by the provision of writing rooms, a library and lounge and a buffet and dining room served from a kitchen designed to serve from 150-200 meals.

Eight new lifts have been installed to assist quick access from all parts of the House to the Chamber.



FIVE





Top left: the galleries in the old Chamber were supported on carved columns. The new gallery is cantilevered and incorporates the air inlets to the mid-level (see cross section on page 469). Strip fluorescent lighting is incorporated in the soffit; this, apart from improving general lighting conditions, will enable the Speaker to see all faces in the House. The photo also shows the members' seating which is cushioned with latex foam and covered in the traditional green coloured pleated leather.

Lower left: the Strangers' Gallery.

Above: a detail of the Press seats. These are tightly planned and designed with pull-up backs which enable reporters to take or leave their places without passing in front of their neighbours.

Below: a detail of seat ends.



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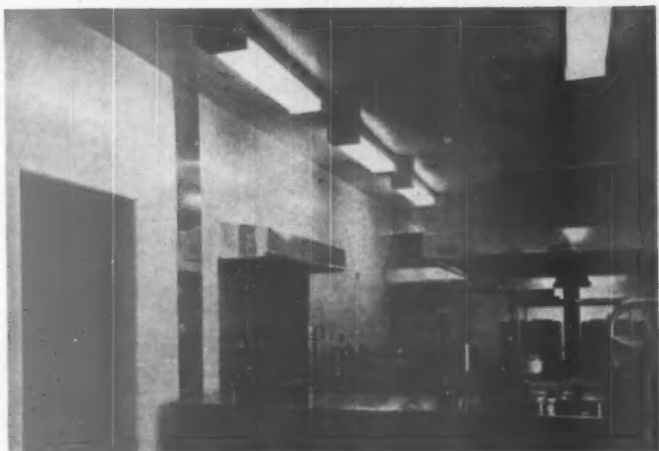
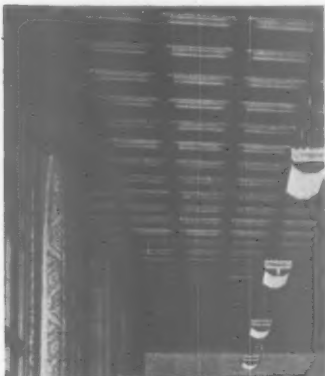
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EXAMPLES OF LIGHTING



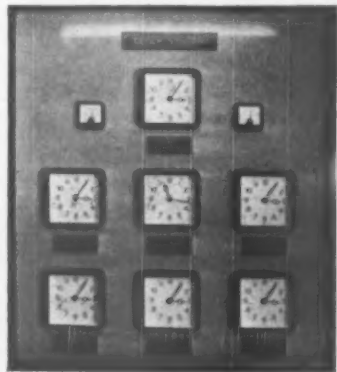
Examples of various types of lighting fitting are shown in the four pictures above. Top left: suspended fittings in the division lobbies. Lower left: combined clock and lighting fitting in the members' lounge. Top right: ceiling fittings in the parliamentary reporters' lobby. All these fittings were designed by Sir Giles and are typical. Bottom right: fittings in the reporters' buffet kitchen; similar units are used in the control and plant rooms, etc. The view of the reporters' lobby above shows some of the air conditioned, sound proofed telephone booths. This picture also shows typical wood block flooring.

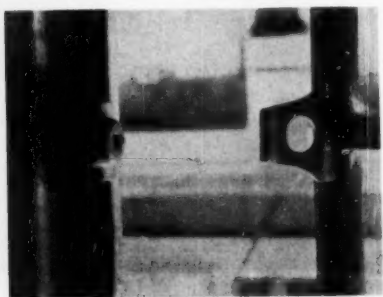
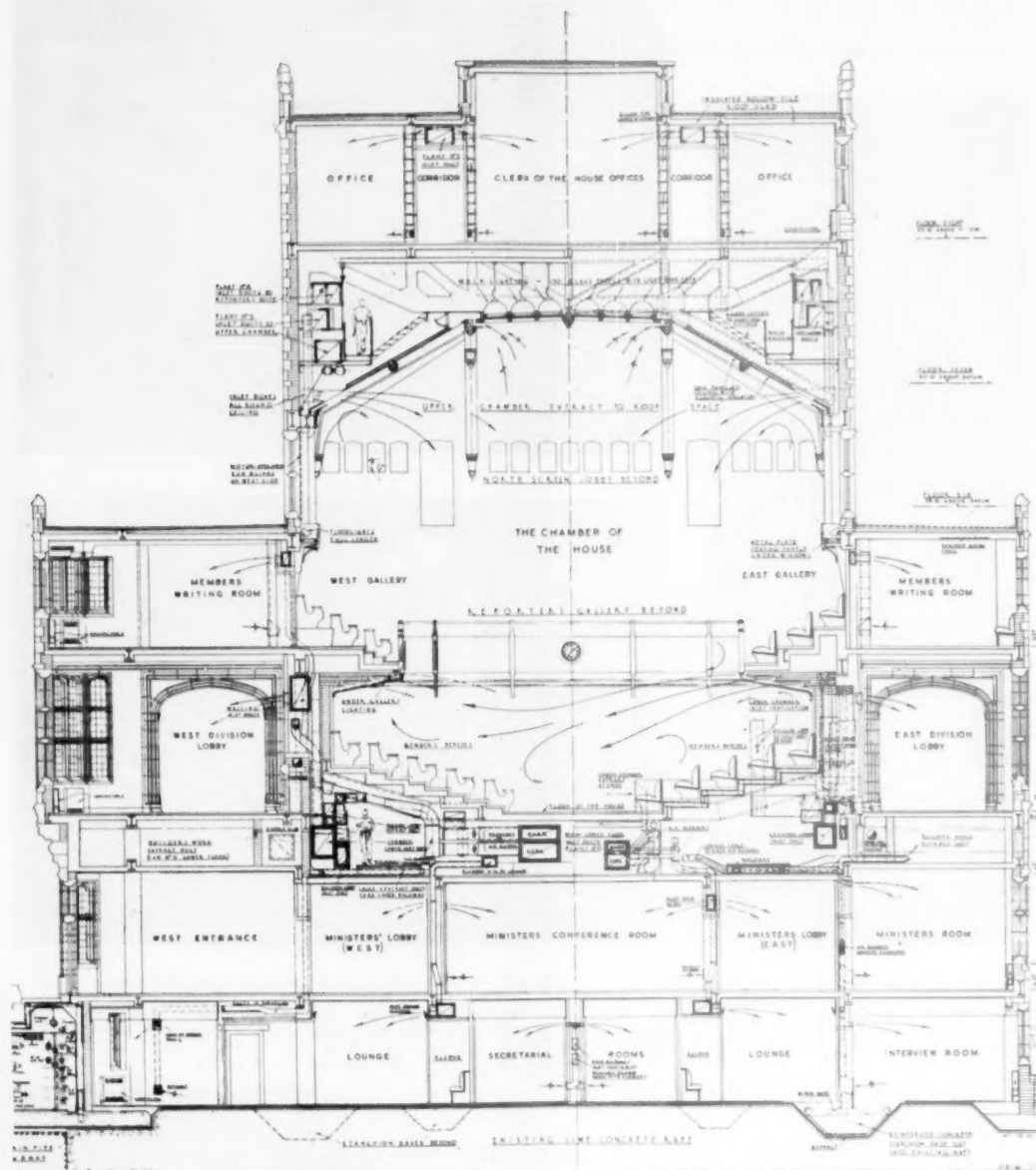
SUBSIDIARY SERVICES



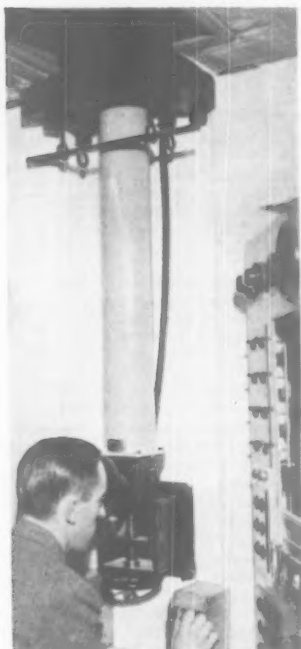
Left: a detail of the miniature loudspeakers linked to the microphone system in the Chamber. The loudspeakers operate at low intensity.

Right: panel of tell-tale clocks connected from the master clock in the control room to sub-circuits throughout the House. The clock system is battery operated and not of synchronous mains type—as accurate time-keeping is essential.





The cross section shows the levels at which the ventilation plant operates. The success of the plenum system depends on control of window opening. Normally windows will be closed in those parts of the House receiving forced ventilation. All opening lights in the bronze casements are therefore fitted with a specially designed "keep" which is key operated. In summer windows can be left open for psychological effect and they can be opened for cleaning from the inside. A detail of the locking device is shown left.



Left: the periscope in the control room which is connected to a panel let into the roof of the Chamber facing the Speaker. By handles the operator can swing the periscope to see all parts of the Chamber.

Right: 1, a temperature and humidity recorder installed in the main fresh air intake; 2, part of the steam heating plant; at the far end are the calorifiers; 3, the two Freon compressors showing the motors which are mounted on an independently suspended floor to reduce vibration; 4, a general view of the control room showing the recording panels and instruments by which ventilation and heating in all parts of the building can be checked and corrected.



SUBSIDIARY SERVICES

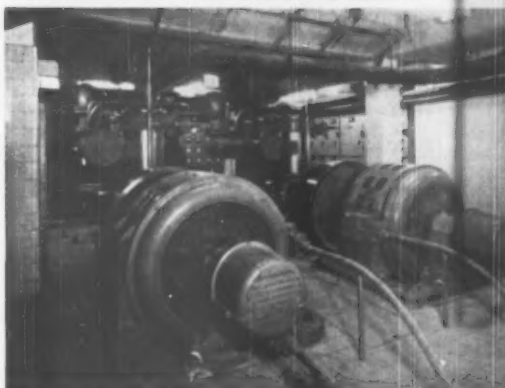
The smooth running of the House depends on a number of mechanical services. Of these not the least important is the clock system. This comprises a master clock in the control room linked to 172 slave dials of various sizes but identical design throughout the House. The six sub-circuits connected to the master clock are linked to control indicator clocks in the control room. Thus when a circuit is out of order (as in the picture p. 471) it can immediately be identified and corrected. The clock system operates on half-minute impulses from a chloride battery.

Emergency lighting is provided by constantly illuminated pilot lights supplied either from the mains or by a large emergency chloride plant with a capacity of 180 a.h. at 10 hour rate. This can supply a load of 10 kw. at 240 volts for three hours.

Sound amplification in the Chamber is by suspended microphones relayed to miniature loudspeakers in the seat backs. The system is controlled by an operator in a cubicle at the south end of the Chamber.

In addition to the telephonic communication system, which includes direct lines to newspaper offices, there is a pneumatic tube system between the Press Gallery and the Post Office in the House for the despatch of cables and telegrams. Three teleprinters connect to principal towns outside London.

Messages within the House are relayed by the annunciator system. Messages are set up in a central operating room and electrically transmitted to receiving instruments throughout the buildings. The message appears in a glazed panel and remains until replaced by a succeeding message.



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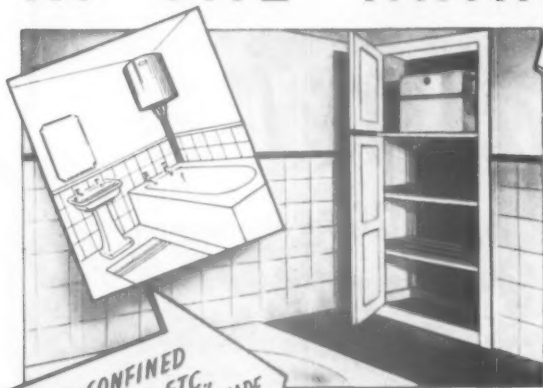
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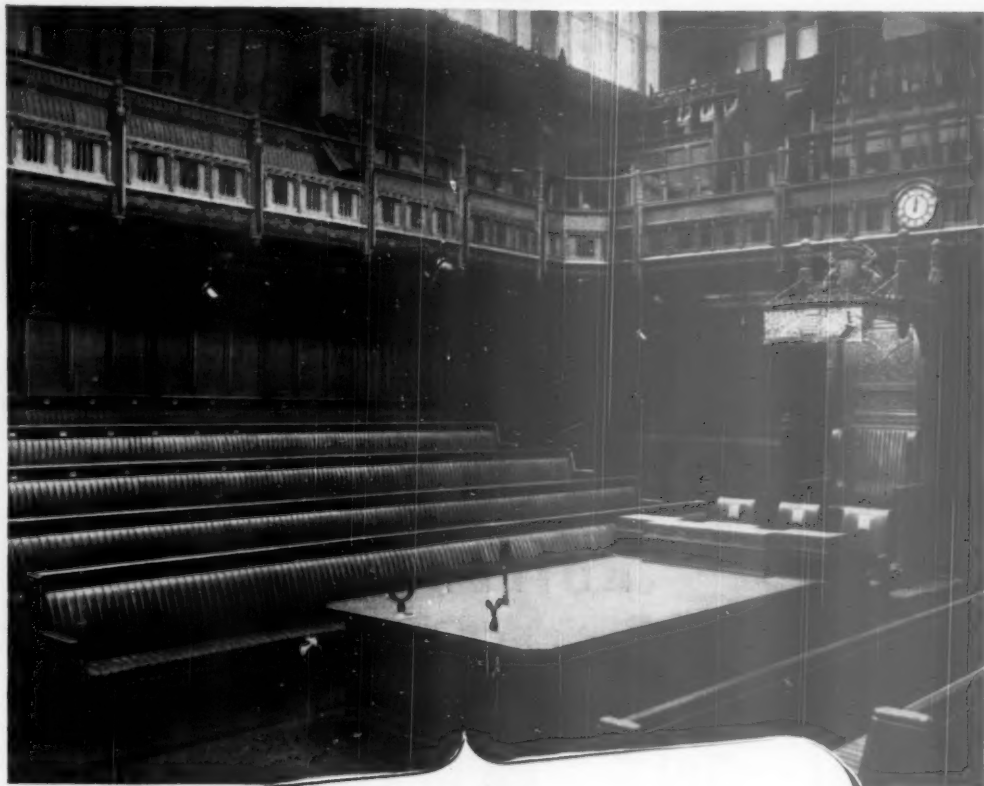
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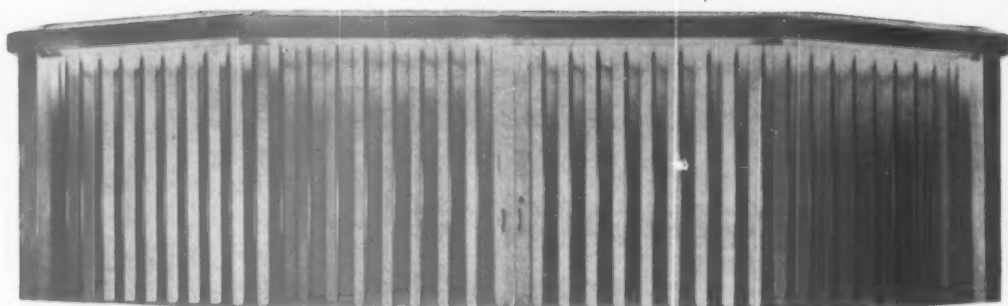
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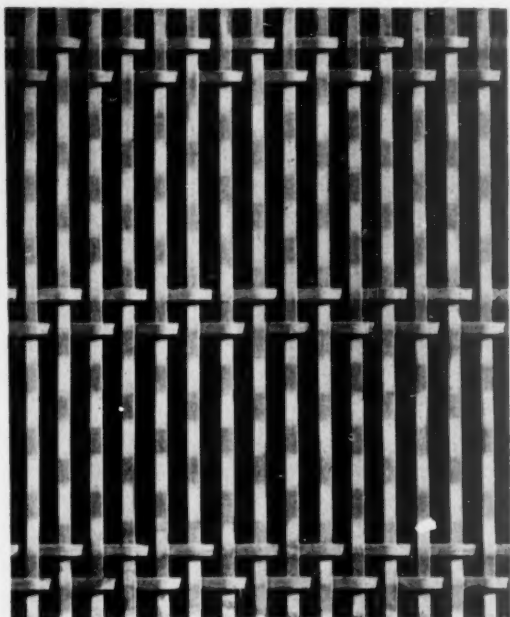


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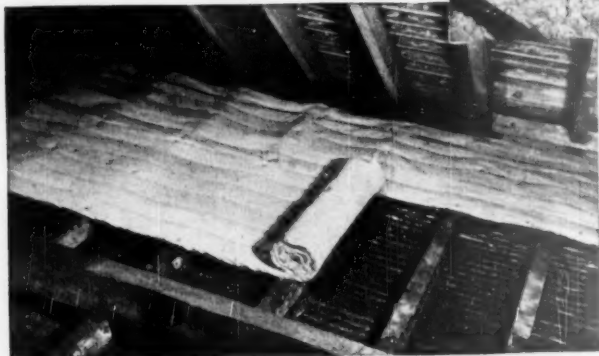
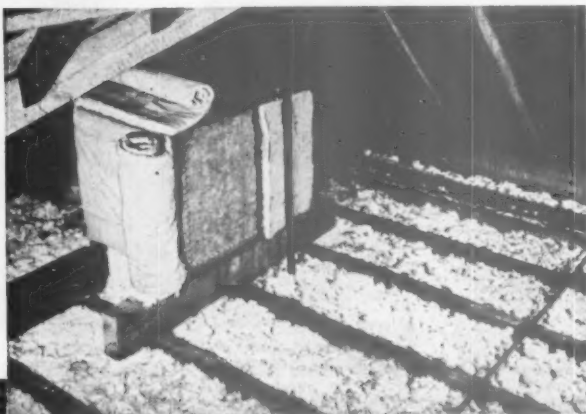
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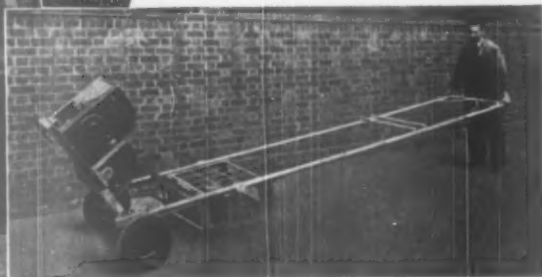
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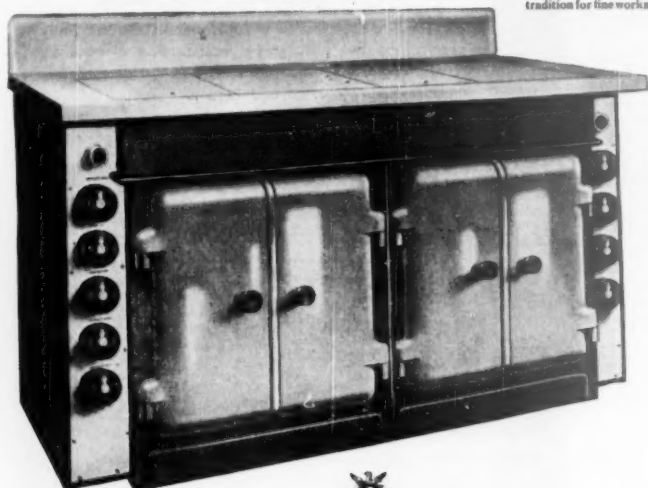
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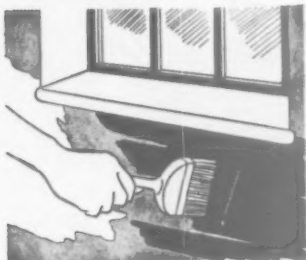
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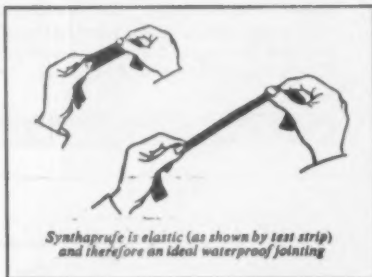
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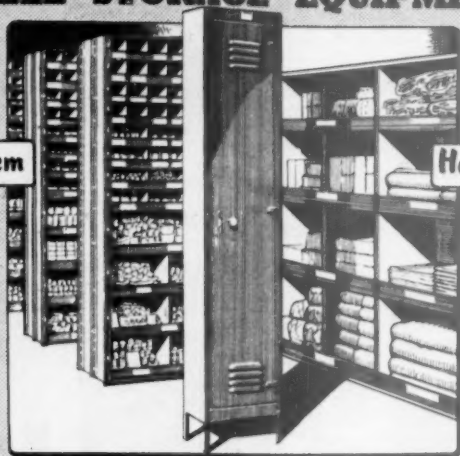
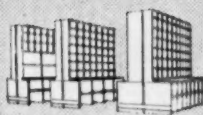
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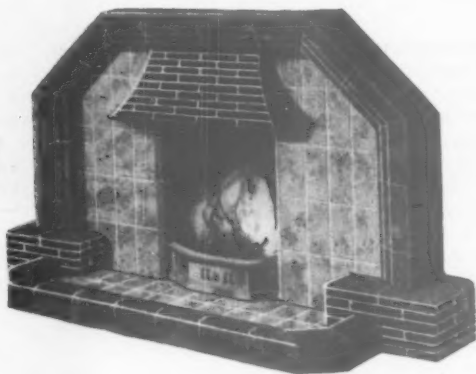
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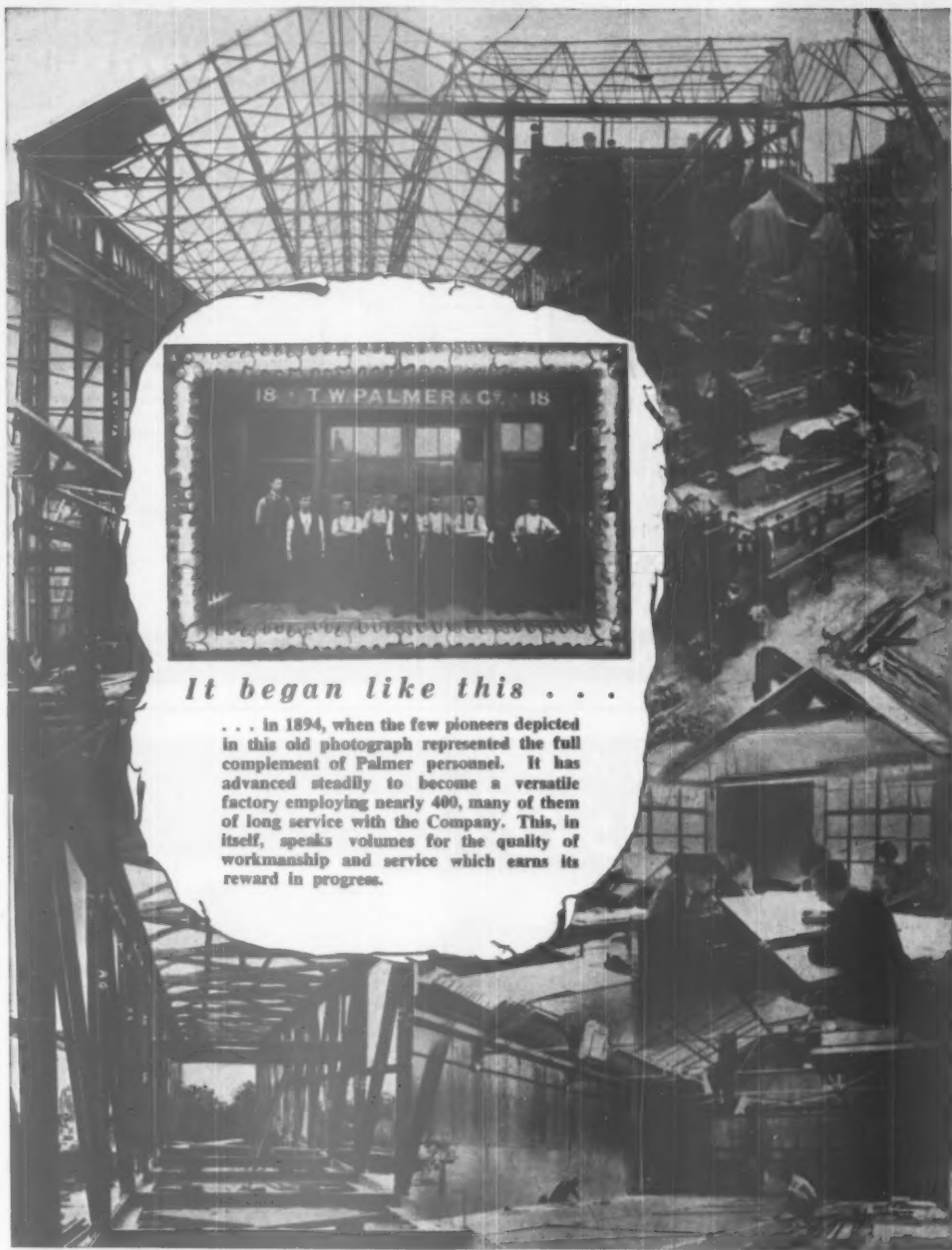
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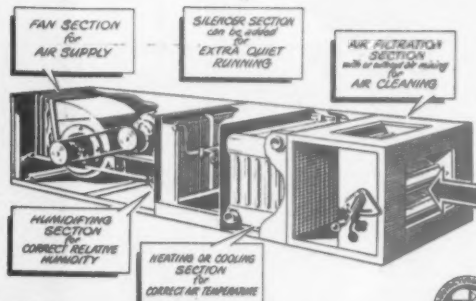
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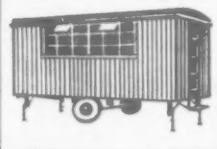
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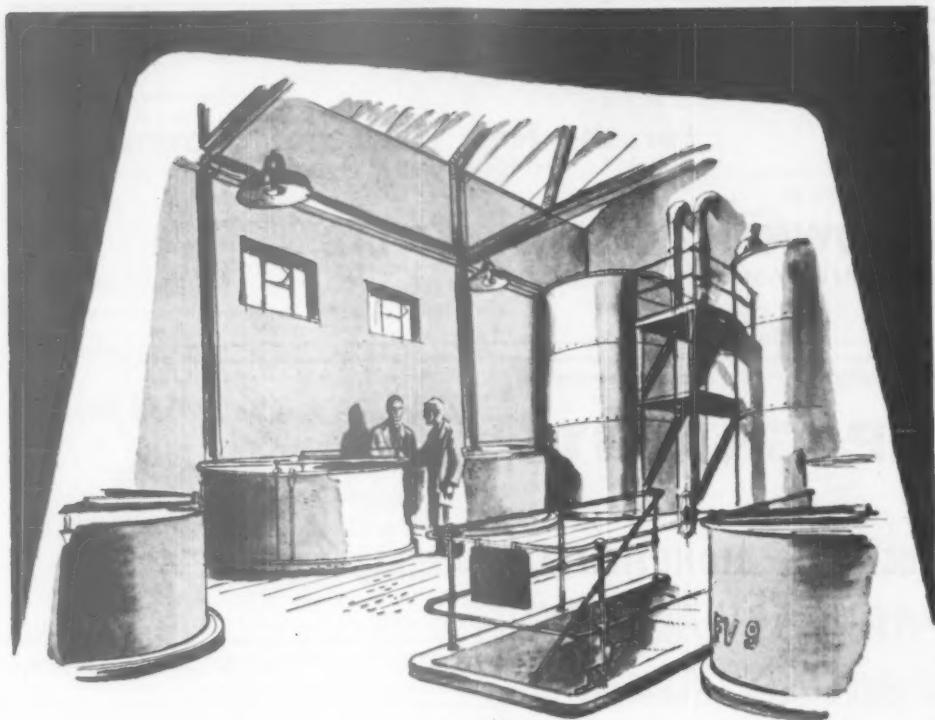
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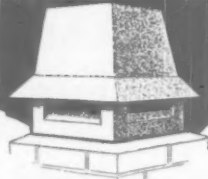
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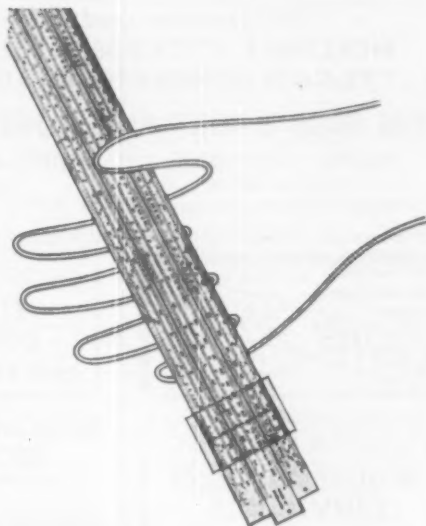


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OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.
COUNTY ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT.

THE above County Council invites applications for the undermentioned appointments in the County Architect's Department, Wrexham, viz.—

(a) 1 ASSISTANT ARCHITECT, A.P.T. Division, Grade VI. Salary £595-660 per annum. Preference will be given to Associates of R.I.B.A. Applicants must have had a thorough training in architectural design and construction of Modern School buildings, and other works carried out by Local Authorities.

(b) 1 ASSISTANT ARCHITECT, A.P.T. Division, Grade V. Salary £520-670 per annum. Preference will be given to Members of R.I.B.A. or Registered Architects.

Applicants must have had sound experience in architectural design and in the preparation of working drawings, with full understanding of Modern School construction.

(c) 2 JUNIOR ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS, A.P.T. Division, Grade III. Salary £450-6495 per annum.

Preference will be given to applicants who have passed the Intermediate R.I.B.A. Examination. Applicants must be capable of preparing working drawings and details for modern buildings.

(d) 1 JUNIOR ASSISTANT ARCHITECT, A.P.T. Division, Grade II. Salary £420-6465 per annum.

Preference will be given to applicants who are preparing for the Intermediate R.I.B.A. Examination. Applicants must be capable of preparing working drawings and details.

(e) 1 SPECIFICATION WRITER, A.P.T. Division, Grade IV. Salary £480-6525 per annum.

Applicants for post (e) must have had Architectural and Quantity Surveying experience and possess a thorough knowledge of current Building Practice and Materials. They must be fully capable of preparing detailed Specifications for Building and Painting Works of all descriptions in connection with County Council properties, and be able to prepare inquiries and deal with Provisional Sum Items in connection with new building projects. The successful applicants will also be required to assist generally in the Quantity Surveyor's Department.

The appointments will be subject to termination of one month's notice in writing on either side, to expire at the end of a calendar month, and also to the provisions of Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937. The successful applicants will be required to pass a medical examination and to reside in such place in the County as the County Council may direct.

Applications, giving age, qualifications and particulars of present and previous appointments, and accompanied by copies of three recent testimonials, to be sent to the undersigned not later than the 11th day of November, 1950.

W. E. BUFTON, Clerk of the County Council, County Offices, Ruthin.

11th October, 1950.

[4892]

- MIDDLESEX COUNTY COUNCIL.

COUNTY ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT.

REGISTERED ARCHITECTS required (26 years of age or over)—

(1) SENIOR ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS, A.P.T. VIII (£715-£790 p.a.).

(2) ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS, A.P.T. VII (£665-£740 p.a.).

(3) ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS, A.P.T. VI (£625-£690 p.a.).

(4) ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS, A.P.T. V (£550-£600 p.a.).

Established, pensionable, subject to medical fitness. Application forms from The County Architect (stamped addressed foolscap envelope), 10 Gt George Street, S.W.1, by 10th November (quoting H.665 9 B.N.). Canvassing disqualified.

C. W. RADCLIFFE,

Clerk of the County Council.

Guildhall, S.W.1.

[4911]

EAST KILBRIDE DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION.

THE Corporation invite applications for the following appointments—

1. (1) SENIOR ARCHITECTS, Grade I. Salary Scale £850/£1,000 per annum.

Applicants should be fully qualified and experienced architects, capable of directing and supervising a section of the housing work of the Corporation. They should have post-war experience in the design and construction of residential areas in the handling of contracts. Associate Membership of the Town Planning Institute or completion of a degree or diploma course in Town Planning is desirable but not essential.

(2) SENIOR ARCHITECTS, Grade II. Salary Scale £760/£900 per annum.

Applicants should be fully qualified and experienced architects, capable of carrying out substantial projects from start to completion including the handling of contracts. Posts are available on this grade for the following work—

- (a) Housing developments.
- (b) Industrial and commercial building.
- (c) Schools.

Post-war experience in at least one of these three fields is essential. Vacancies also exist on this grade for candidates who have had planning experience in these fields.

Candidates for posts under (1) or (2) should show evidence of a sensitive approach to the contemporary design, equipment and layout of buildings.

(3) ARCHITECTS, Salary Scale £550/£760 per annum.

Applicants should possess similar qualifications, etc., to (2) above except that they will work under the direction of a Senior Architect.

(4) ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS, Salary Scale £450/£525 per annum.

(5) JUNIOR ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS, Salary Scale £390/£465 per annum.

In respect of each of the above posts a placing on the scale will be given according to qualifications and/or experience.

The appointments are subject to the Corporation's Conditions of Service and Superannuation Agreement. The selected candidates will be required to pass a medical examination. A house will be made available if required. Application forms may be obtained from the General Manager, Torrance House, East Kilbride, to whom they should be returned not later than Friday, 24th November, 1950.

Canvassing, directly or indirectly, of the Members of the Corporation will constitute an absolute disqualification.

[4914]

BOROUGH OF BEDFORD.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the appointment of an ENGINEERING ASSISTANT, Grade A.P.T. VI, salary £520-£70.

The appointment will be subject to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, to a satisfactory medical examination, and to the termination of the appointment by one month's notice in writing on either side.

Applicants should be A.M.I.C.E. or hold the Testamur of the Institution of Municipal Engineers, or equivalent, and should have had Municipal experience.

Applications, stating age, qualifications and experience, and accompanied by copies of not more than three recent testimonials, should be delivered to the undersigned not later than Saturday, 4th November, 1950.

Canvassing, directly or indirectly, will disqualify. CHARLES H. BLAKEWAY, M.Inst.Mun.E., Borough Engineer and Surveyor, Newnham House, Horne Lane, Bedford.

10th October, 1950.

[4920]

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

QUANTITY SURVEYOR required by the

Mauritius Government for one tour of 3 years in the first instance. Fixed salary, according to qualifications and experience, payable in local currency equivalent at the present Government rate of exchange to between £750 and £900 a year plus cost of living allowance up to £180 a year. Gratuity on satisfactory completion of services. Free passages. Liberal leave on full salary. Candidates should have had considerable experience of the normal duties of a Quantity Surveyor—Apply at once by letter, stating age, full names in block letters, and full particulars of qualifications and experience, and mentioning this paper, to the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4 Millbank, London, S.W.1, quoting M/N/34010/1A, on both letter and envelope. The Crown Agents cannot undertake to acknowledge all applications and will communicate only with applicants selected for further consideration.

[4917]

BOROUGH OF BURY ST. EDMUNDS.

BOROUGH ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR'S
DEPARTMENT.

APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT ARCHITECT.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the post of ASSISTANT ARCHITECT in the Department of the Borough Engineer and Surveyor, at a salary in accordance with Grade A.P.T. VI, £595-£660 p.a. Duties will include the design of new houses and other buildings, also the supervision of a Direct Labour Organisation engaged on the construction of Council Houses.

Housing accommodation will be available if required.

The appointment will be subject to the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, the National Scheme of Conditions of Service, the satisfactory passing of a medical examination by the successful applicant, and termination by one month's notice on either side.

Applications, stating age, whether married, details of qualifications, past and present appointments, and full particulars of experience, together with the names and addresses of three referees, must be delivered to Mr. N. C. Goldsmith, M.B.E., M.Inst.Mun.E., Borough Engineer and Surveyor, at the address below, in sealed envelopes endorsed "Assistant Architect," not later than Saturday, 4th November, 1950.

J. W. H. KNIGHT, Town Clerk.

Borough Offices, Bury St. Edmunds.

16th October, 1950.

[4910]

BOROUGH OF ALTRINCHAM.

APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECTURAL
ASSISTANT.

BOROUGH SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the above permanent appointment which will be subject to the National Joint Council's Scheme of Conditions of Service, and the provision of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, to the passing of a medical examination and to one month's notice on either side. The commencing salary payable will be between £420 per annum and £460 per annum according to the qualifications and experience of the successful candidate, i.e., in accordance with the National Joint Council recommendations.

Applications, stating age, qualifications and experience, together with the names of two persons to whom reference may be made, should be delivered to the undersigned in an envelope endorsed "Architectural Assistant," not later than Friday, 10th November, 1950.

Candidates are requested to disclose in writing whether to their knowledge they are related to any members of the Council or the holder of any senior office under the Council.

Canvassing, either directly or indirectly, will disqualify.

A. GLOSSOP, Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Altrincham.

[4912]

LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL.

ASSISTANT QUANTITY SURVEYOR required in the Housing and Valuation Department—commencing salary up to £660 a year according to qualifications and experience.

Duties include management of housing contracts of considerable value, interim valuations for payments, measurements of variations and settlement of final accounts.

Forms of application from Director of Housing and Valuer, County Hall, S.E.1. Stamped addressed envelope required. (Quote QS 1324)

[4904]

WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL.

COUNTY ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the appointment of an ASSISTANT HEATING AND HOT WATER DESIGNER-DRAUGHTSMAN (male) at a salary in accordance with Grade IV A.P.T. Division (£480 to £525 per annum) of the Consolidated National Scales.

Further particulars should be obtained immediately from the County Architect, County Hall, Chichester, to whom detailed applications must be submitted not later than the 7th November, 1950.

T. C. HAYWARD,

Clerk of the County Council.

County Hall, Chichester.

12th October, 1950.

[4909]

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

ENGINEERING DRAUGHTSMAN required by the Tanganyika Government for the Public Works Department, for one tour of 24 to 36 months in first instance. Salary according to experience in scale (male) £690 to £840 a year (female) £552 to £672 a year. Outfit allowance up to £45. Provident Fund. Free passages. Liberal leave on full salary. Candidates, not over 35 years of age, must have had five years' drawing office experience in design and preparation of plans for Civil Engineering Works, including Roads, Aerodromes, Water Supply and Sewerage, Structures, etc. Female candidates must be single. Apply at once by letter, stating age, full names in block letters, and full particulars of qualifications and experience, and mentioning this paper, to the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4 Milbank, London, S.W.1, quoting M/N/24517/3A on both letter and envelope. The Crown Agents cannot undertake to acknowledge all applications, and will communicate only with applicants selected for further consideration. [4906]

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT required by the Government of Kenya for the Public Works Department for one tour of four years in the first instance. Commencing salary according to age and experience in the scale £670 rising to £840 a year. Outfit allowance £30. Gratuity on satisfactory completion of service. Free passages. Liberal leave on full salary. Candidates, not over 40 years of age, should have a good general education and sound knowledge of building construction. Should be accurate draughtsmen with good experience in an architect's office. Apply at once by letter, stating age, full names in block letters and full particulars of qualifications and experience, and mentioning this paper, to the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4 Milbank, London, S.W.1, quoting M/N/27156/3A on both letter and envelope. The Crown Agents cannot undertake to acknowledge all applications and will communicate only with applicants selected for further consideration. [4905]

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY ARCHITECT.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified architects for the position of **DEPUTY ARCHITECT** to the Education Committee (Architect to the Committee: Mr. Alex Steele, A.R.I.B.A.). The salary will be at the rate of £1,000 per annum rising by annual increments of £50 to £1,250 per annum.

Applicants will be required to produce evidence of their capacity in design and construction. Administrative experience though not essential will be of advantage.

The appointment will be for full-time service and will be subject to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act.

Further particulars and forms of application, which should be returned not later than 20th November, 1950, should be obtained from the undersigned on receipt of a stamped, addressed envelope.

E. L. RUSSELL, Chief Education Officer.

Education Office, General Purposes Branch.

Council House, Margaret Street, Birmingham 3 [4921]

CWMBRAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
(MONMOUTHSHIRE).

Applications are invited for following appointments in Department of the Chief Architect, Mr. J. C. P. West, A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.:

a. **ARCHITECT PLANNER** with good knowledge of house design and construction, to take charge of preparation of layout schemes, Neighbourhood Units, Housing Sites, etc. Must be Members of R.I.B.A. membership T.P.I. an advantage. Salary within range £750-1,000 p.a.

b. **TWO ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS** with very good general experience of house design, construction and layouts. Must be A.R.I.B.A. or Registered Architect. Salary within range £550-750 p.a.

c. **ONE JUNIOR ASSISTANT ARCHITECT**, graduated or completed satisfactory period professional training. Salary within range £400-525 p.a.

d. **ONE DRAUGHTSMAN**, good experience in Architect's Office. Salary £300 p.a.

Superannuation scheme for all posts. Applications, stating age, qualifications, experience, together with names of two referees, by 6th November, 1950, to the General Manager, Town Hall (17 Corn Street Entrance).

Newport, Mon. [4915]

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF
PADDINGTON.APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT ARCHITECT
(1). HOUSING DEPARTMENT
A.P.T. VI/VII (£625-£740 p.a.).

Applications are invited for this appointment which is subject to the National Joint Council's Service Conditions, the Council's Superannuation Acts, and to one month's notice on either side. Registered Architects, preferably Associates of the Royal Institute of British Architects and have had experience in architectural design and construction of general municipal work, including multi-storey flats, or similar experience with private firms of architects. The commencing salary will be at a point within the grades dependent upon the qualifications and experience of the successful candidate.

Forms of application and conditions of appointment are obtainable from the undersigned, to whom the completed applications must be returned by noon on Tuesday, 14th November, 1950.

W. H. BENTLEY, Town Clerk,
Town Hall, Paddington, W.2. [4923]

HIS MAJESTY'S COLONIAL SERVICE—
HONG KONG.

VACANCY exists for an ARCHITECT in the Public Works Department, Hong Kong, on a salary scale of \$1,047 to \$1,820 per month equivalent to £785-£1,365 per annum. The duties will include the preparation of designs for and erection of Government buildings.

A cost of living allowance is payable varying from \$166 per month for a single officer to \$501 per month for a married officer with children. Appointment will be on agreement for 3 years, and free passages are provided for an officer, his wife, and up to 3 children on appointment and on satisfactory completion of his agreement. He may be required to travel by air on duty. Quarters are provided at just over one ninth of the salary advertised. Educational facilities are available up to secondary school standard. One day's leave is granted for every 12 days' resident service.

Candidates, preferably between the ages of 28 and 35, should hold the qualification of A.R.I.B.A., and should have at least 5 years' practical experience. The agreement may be followed by an offer of permanent employment.

Candidates should write for a form of application, stating age, qualifications and experience, to the Director of Recruitment (Colonial Service), Colonial Office, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London, S.W.1. Please mention this paper in your reply and quote No. 27301/37. [4925]

AMENDED ADVERTISEMENT.

NEWMARKET RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECT.

Applications are invited for the above whole-time appointment, at a commencing salary of £800 per annum in accordance with the recommendation of the Joint Negotiating Committee for Chief Officers of Local Authorities.

The appointment will be subject to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, and to one month's notice on either side.

Applicants should be Associate Members of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

The person appointed will be requested to carry out all architectural duties in connection with the Council's housing schemes and all other similar duties that may be assigned to him from time to time by the Council. He will also be required to provide and maintain a car for the purposes of his duties, for which a travelling allowance will be paid in accordance with the National Scale.

Applications, stating age, qualifications and experience, together with the names of three referees, must be submitted to the undersigned not later than 10th November, 1950.

Housing accommodation is available.

H. W. EVANS, Clerk to the Council.

Council Office, Park Lane, Newmarket. [4916]

LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL.

ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT.

Applications are invited for positions of **ARCHITECT**, Grade III (£590-£700) and **TECHNICAL ASSISTANT** (up to £580) for work on new housing schools and other public buildings. The positions are superannuable. Candidates for Grade III positions should possess professional qualifications. Application forms from the Architect (AR/P/S), The County Hall, Westminster Bridge, S.E.1, enclosing stamped addressed foolscap envelope. Canvassing disqualifies. (384) [10097]

COUNTY BOROUGH OF GREAT YARMOUTH.

BOROUGH ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT.

APPOINTMENT OF SENIOR ASSISTANT
ARCHITECT.

Applications are invited for the appointment of a **SENIOR ASSISTANT ARCHITECT** in the Borough Engineer's Department. Salary A.P.T. Grade VI (£595-£660). Candidates should be Associates of the Royal Institute of British Architects, but need not have had previous Local Government experience. The appointment will be terminable by one month's notice on either side and will be subject to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, and to the passing of a medical examination.

Housing accommodation will be offered to the successful applicant, if married.

Applications, stating age, qualifications and experience together with the names of three persons to whom reference could be made, should be enclosed in an envelope endorsed "Senior Assistant Architect" and must be received by me not later than Friday, 10th November, 1950. Canvassing will be deemed a disqualification and candidates must disclose in writing any relationship to any member or holder of any senior office under the Council. Candidates who fail to do so will be disqualified, and if appointed, will be liable to dismissal without notice.

FARRA CONWAY, Town Clerk,
Town Hall, Great Yarmouth.
20th October, 1950. [4926]

CITY OF ROCHESTER.

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT.

Applications are invited for the above appointment in the City Surveyor's Department, at a salary in accordance with Grade V (Administrative, Professional and Technical Division) of the National Scale of Salaries, viz., £520 per annum, rising by two annual increments of £15 and one of £20 to £570 per annum. Candidates must be Registered Architects, and preference will be given to Associates of the Royal Institute of British Architects. A good general experience is required, particularly in the preparation of drawings and specifications for municipal housing schemes. A knowledge of quantities will be an advantage.

In an appropriate case the City Council will provide the successful applicant with suitable housing accommodation.

The appointment will be subject to—

(1) The Scheme of Conditions of Service of the National Joint Council for Local Authorities' Administrative, Professional, Technical and Clerical Services.

(2) The Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, and the successful candidate will be required to pass a medical examination.

(3) One month's notice on either side.

Applications, stating age, qualifications and experience, together with the names and addresses of three persons to whom reference may be made, should be delivered to Lt.-Col. W. Law, M.I.C.E., City Surveyor, 66 Maidstone Road, Rochester, not later than the 6th November, 1950.

Canvassing, directly or indirectly, will be deemed a disqualification, and applicants must state whether to their knowledge they are related to any member or senior officer of the Council.

JOHN L. PERCIVAL, Town Clerk,
Guildhall, Rochester.
21st October, 1950. [4927]

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF
WANDSWORTH.

BOROUGH ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the undermentioned appointments of **ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS**—

Established:

Grade A.P.T. 5-6 .. (£550 to £690)

Grade A.P.T. 5 .. (£550 to £600)

Grade A.P.T. 2 .. (£450 to £495)

Grade A.P.T. 1 .. (£420 to £465)

Unestablished:

Grade A.P.T. 4 .. (£510 to £555)

Grade A.P.T. 1 .. (£420 to £465)

The work of the Department includes the design and planning of housing estates, particularly multi-storey blocks of flats.

Requests for application forms, which can be obtained from the Borough Architect, should state clearly for which post the form is required.

Completed forms should be returned to the undersigned not later than 30th November, 1950.

R. H. JERMAN, Town Clerk,
Municipal Buildings, Wandsworth, S.W.18.
28th September, 1950. [4902]

MINISTRY OF WORKS.

THERE are vacancies in the Chief Architect's Division for ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS and LEADING ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANTS with recognised training and fair experience. Successful candidates will be employed in London and elsewhere on a wide variety of Public Buildings, including Atomic Energy and other Research Establishments, Telephone Exchanges, and Housing.

Salary: Architectural Assistants £300-£525 per annum. Leading Architectural Assistants £500-£625 per annum. Starting pay will be assessed according to age, qualifications and experience. These rates are for London; a small deduction is made in the Provinces.

Although these are not established posts, some of them have long term possibilities and competitions are held periodically to fill established vacancies.

Apply in writing, stating age, nationality, full details of experience, and locality preferred, to Chief Architect, W.G.10/BC, Ministry of Works, Abell House, London, S.W.1, quoting reference W.G.10/BC. [4671]

LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL.

APPLICATIONS are invited for positions of ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT (salaries up to £580 a year) in the Housing and Valuation Department. Commencing salaries will be determined according to qualifications and experience. Engagement will be subject to the Local Government Superannuation Acts, and successful candidates will be eligible for consideration for appointment to the permanent staff on the occurrence of vacancies.

Successful candidates will be required to assist in the design, layout and preparation of working drawings for housing schemes (cottages and multi-storey flats) and will be employed in the Housing Architect's Division.

Forms of application may be obtained from the Director of Housing, The County Hall, Westminster Bridge, S.E.1 (stamped addressed envelope required and quote reference A.A.1). Canvassing disqualifies. (1616) [4611]

WAR DEPARTMENT.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the following vacancy (a second vacancy is a possibility in the near future) in the Fortification and Works Directorate, at Cheshington, Surrey—

ASSISTANT CIVIL ENGINEER. Must be a Corporate Member of Institution of Civil or Structural Engineers, have specialised experience in design and construction of steel-framed buildings and must be fully conversant with B.S.449 (1948) and British Standard Codes of Practice for steel-work design. A knowledge of reinforced concrete construction would be an advantage.

Applicants should be under 50 years of age. Salary for the post is on the range £468-£720 per annum. Starting salary will be fixed according to age, qualifications and experience. Annual increases are payable subject to satisfactory service.

The post is temporary but has long-term possibilities and Open Competitions are held periodically to fill established posts.

The work is varied and interesting and good canteen facilities exist.

Apply, in writing only, stating age, nationality and full details of qualifications and experience, to the War Office (C.S.A.), Room 504, Hotel Victoria, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.2. [4672]

COUNTY BOROUGH OF GREAT YARMOUTH.

APPOINTMENT OF CLERK OF WORKS

APPLICATIONS are invited for the appointment of CLERK OF WORKS to act under the direction of the Borough Engineer in the supervision of the erection of six-storey flats.

Applicants should have a thorough knowledge of the building trade, of steel frame building and pile foundations. Membership of the Incorporated Clerks of Works Association of Great Britain would be an advantage.

The salary will be 12 guineas per week.

Applications, stating age, qualifications and previous experience, together with copies of three testimonials, should be enclosed in an envelope endorsed "Clerk of Works," and must be received by me not later than Friday, 10th November, 1950.

Canvassing, directly or indirectly, will be deemed a disqualification, and candidates must disclose in writing whether, to their knowledge, they are related to any member or holder of any senior office under the Council. Candidates who fail to do so will be disqualified and, if appointed, will be liable to dismissal without notice.

FARRA CONWAY, Town Clerk.
Town Hall, Great Yarmouth.
20th October, 1950. [4693]

BOROUGH OF MALDEN AND COOMBE.

BOROUGH ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT.

APPOINTMENT OF SENIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT—GRADE A.P.T. V.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the above-mentioned permanent appointment at a salary in accordance with Grade V of the Administrative, Professional and Technical Division of the National Scheme for Local Government Officers, namely £520 a £15/£20 - £570 per annum plus "London Weighting." The appointment will be subject to the National Scheme of Conditions of Service, terminable by one month's notice on either side, and subject to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937. The successful candidate will be required to pass a medical examination.

Preference will be given to Registered Architects who have had experience in the architectural design and construction of general municipal work including flat development.

Applications, giving details of age, experience, qualifications, present and past appointments, and enclosing copies of two recent testimonials, should be addressed to reach the undersigned not later than Wednesday, 8th November, 1950.

Canvassing, directly or indirectly, will be deemed a disqualification, and candidates must disclose in their applications whether to their knowledge they are related to any member or senior official of the Council.

The Council will endeavour to provide the successful candidate with housing accommodation if deemed necessary.

HAROLD E. BARRETT, Town Clerk.
Municipal Offices,
New Malden, Surrey.
October, 1950. [4629]

BOROUGH OF WIDNES.

APPOINTMENT OF BOROUGH ARCHITECT.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the appointment of BOROUGH ARCHITECT at a salary of £200 per annum (plus) by annual increments of £50 to £1,000 per annum.

The person appointed will be required to take charge of the Architect's Department set up by the Council, which carries out all architectural work including houses, schools and public buildings.

Applicants must have had considerable experience in Municipal Architectural work; they must be Fellows or Associates of the Royal Institute of British Architects, and preference will be given to candidates possessing a University Degree in Architecture.

Applications, stating age, present and previous positions, technical training and qualifications (with dates) and concise particulars of experience, together with the names and addresses of three persons to whom reference may be made, must be delivered, endorsed "Borough Architect," to the undersigned on or before Friday, 10th November, 1950.

The appointment, which will be terminable by three months' notice on either side, is subject to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, and the successful candidate will be required to pass a medical examination. Canvassing will be a disqualification, and applicants must disclose any relationship to members of the Council.

The Corporation will provide a house for the successful candidate if required.

FRANK HOWARTH, Town Clerk.
Town Hall, Widnes.
23rd October, 1950. [4691]

BOROUGH OF ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the appointment of ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT in the Borough Surveyor's Department for the period of approximately three years on Grade IV (£480-£525) of the National Scheme. Successful candidates will be required to contribute under the Local Government Officers' Superannuation Act, 1937, and to pass a medical examination. Applicants should state, in addition to the usual particulars, whether to their knowledge they are related to any member or Senior Officer of the Council.

Applications, together with copies of not more than three testimonials, should be delivered to Mr. H. P. Bishop, Borough Surveyor, Town Hall, Tunbridge Wells, not later than Saturday, 11th November, 1950.

JOHN WHITEHEAD, Town Clerk.
Town Hall, Tunbridge Wells. [4628]

ARCHITECTURAL APPOINTMENTS VACANT

ARCHITECT required to hold responsible position in the preparation of working drawings for buildings at London Airport. Salary £750 or according to experience.—Write to Frederick Gibberd, 35 Gordon Square, W.C.1. [4686]

ARCHITECT'S Assistant, under 30 years of age, experience houses, flat, knowledge of Quantities, required. State details of education, training, experience, salary required, copies of testimonials and two references.—Mr. Walter, A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I., Chartered Architect, 11 Colindale Crescent, Sheffied, 10. [4697]

ARCHITECTURAL Assistant required for Factory and Hospital work in Liverpool. Kindly write, stating age, experience, salary required.—A. Neville Holt, F.R.I.B.A., 20 Exchange Street East, Liverpool. [4622]

SITUATIONS VACANT

ARCHITECTURAL Metal Workers require a Designer-Draughtsman of considerable merit. Top salaried position for skilled man.—Apply The Morris Sinner Company, Hope House, Gt. Peter Street, Westminster S.W.1. [4695]

BUILDING Surveyors. Holland & Hannen and Cubitts Ltd. offer ambitious Assistant Surveyors opportunities to work on important contracts in the London area. Scope for initiative and excellent prospects for advancement await suitable applicants seeking to further their career. Promotion to established staff and superannuation will follow successful probationary period.—Please write, giving full personal details, including age, education, training, experience, etc., to Personnel Manager, 1 Queen Anne's Gate, S.W.1. [4691]

CIVIL Engineering Surveyor, Assistant required by Consulting Engineers for Site Work. Must be prepared to work abroad for short terms. Experience in the routing of water mains and general town planning desirable. Applications, stating technical qualifications and experience, should be addressed—The Secretary, Ewham & Partners, 15 Grosvenor Place, S.W.1. [4693]

DESIGNER required for Drawing Office of well-known Reinforced Concrete Flooring Contractors.—Apply in writing, stating age, qualifications and experience, to Smith's Fireproof Floors, Timber Court, East Mooley. [4699]

REQUIRED by Reinforced Concrete Company, young man to train for Sales Staff, age between 23 and 25. Salary offered—£200 to £300 per annum according to qualifications. This vacancy occurs in our Bristol office and the successful applicant will be trained by our Divisional Engineer.—Write, giving full details, to Box A.B.304, at 191 Graham House, E.C.2. [4689]

SENIOR Estimator/Quantity Surveyor required by London Company specialising in systems of construction for schools. Good salary and prospects for men of experience and ability.—Box 6854, The Architect and Building News. [4694]

SERVICES OFFERED

ARCHITECTURAL—Models and Perspectives. Excellent construction and draughtsmanship. Box 6765, The Architect and Building News. [4697]

DUPLICATING. Specifications and Bills of Quantities. Speedy service.—Lincoln Commercial School (Proprietor: Robert Withers), Rosemary Lane, Lincoln. [4673]

FOR SALE

ALL Mouldings, Plain and Embossed, and Embossed Ornaments. Numerous designs.—Darren's Moulding Mills Ltd., 60 Fowall Road, Dalton, E.A. [4696]

NISSEN Type Huts, ex-Government stock, reconditioned and supplied ready for erection. All sizes in 6ft. multiples 36ft. x 16ft., 36ft. x 24ft., 36ft. x 48ft. and 48ft. x 24ft., 48ft. x 36ft., 48ft. x 48ft. and 48ft. x 72ft. Delivered U.K. Plasterboard huts and other buildings. Some 36ft. span Nuisen.—Write call or telephone Universal Supplies (Belvedere) Ltd., Dept. 32, Crabtree Manorway Belvedere, Kent. Tel. No. Erith 2948. [4697]

FOR SALE

NO Chimney, no Boiler-house needed with a B. & A. Electrode Boiler. Ideal for hot water and central heating... no ash removal. Most compact, can be fitted in any convenient position. Available from 102,000 to 4,000,000 B.Th.U. per hour.—Write for Leaflet 142, Bantian & Allica Ltd., Ferndale Terrace, Harrow, Middlesex. [4790]

FOR sale, eight Steel Compound Plate Girders of riveted and welded construction, each approximately 50ft. long x 36in. deep x 14in. wide, web plate about 1/4in. thick. Further details and price upon request.—Thos. W. Ward Ltd., Albion Works, Sheffield. [4924]

CONTRACTS

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BRIGHTON.

TO: BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS.

TENDERS are invited for the ERECTION OF ONE PAIR OF POLICE HOUSES at Walmer Crescent, Heathfield Avenue, Lower Bevedean Estate.

Bills of Quantities will be available on or after 16th October, 1950.

Builders and Contractors desiring to tender should apply to the Borough Engineer and Surveyor, D. J. Howe, M.I.C.E., M.I.Mun.E., 26/30 King's Road, Brighton, and enclose a deposit of £2 2s. 0d. (made payable to the Brighton Corporation), which will be refunded on receipt of a bona-fide tender or notification of inability to tender, providing such is received before the latest date of tendering.

Sealed tenders, suitably endorsed, are to be delivered in the enclosed envelope provided to the undersigned, not later than 12 noon, 7th November, 1950.

The successful tenderer will be required to enter into a Bond with an approved Guarantee Insurance Company or Bank for the due and proper completion of the work.

The Council does not bind itself to accept the lowest of any tender.

J. G. DREW, Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Brighton,
11th October, 1950.

[4901]

CITY OF CARDIFF.

ERECTION OF LLANDAFF NORTH SECONDARY MODERN SCHOOL, BRIDGE ROAD.

TENDERS are invited for the ERECTION of the above School.

Applications for Bills of Quantities should be made to the City Surveyor, City Hall, Cardiff, together with a deposit of £2 2s. 0d., which will be returned upon receipt of a bona-fide tender or the return of all documents.

Plans may be seen at the offices of the Architects, Messrs. Ivor Jones and John Bishop, 6/7 St. John's Square, Cardiff.

Tender in a plain sealed envelope to be provided, bearing the words "Tender—Erection of Llandaff North Secondary Modern School, Bridge Road," must be delivered to the undersigned not later than 12 noon on the 28th November, 1950.

S. TAPPER-JONES, Town Clerk.

City Hall, Cardiff,
October, 1950.

[4908]

COMPETITION

FESTIVAL OF BRITAIN, 1951: NORTHERN IRELAND.

ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITIONS.

THE Royal Society of Ulster Architects in association with the Council for the Encouragement of Music and the Arts (Northern Ireland) invite Architects or students in the undernoted categories to submit designs in competition for—

- (a) A Seaside Hotel: Premiums, £200, £100, £50
(b) A Recreation Centre: Premiums, £100, £50, £25.
Assocot: Desmond Fitzgerald, B.Arch.,
M.R.I.A.E., A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I.

Last date for submitting designs: 31st March, 1951.

Entry is restricted to persons born or normally resident in Northern Ireland who possess one or more of the following qualifications:

- (a) Member, Associate or Student of the Royal Society of Ulster Architects.
(b) Fellow, Associate, Licentiate or Student of the Royal Institute of British Architects.
(c) Member of any Society allied to the Royal Institute of British Architects.
(d) Fellow, Member or Student of the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland.
(e) Name upon the statutory Register of the Architect's Registration Council of the United Kingdom.

Although it is unlikely that these subjects shall be built, they have been carefully selected to meet a known need. One or several of the designs shall be displayed in an important public exhibition of architecture to be held in Belfast as part of the Festival of Britain activities.

Separate schedules of conditions are available in respect of each competition and these may be had on application to the Hon. Secretary, Royal Society of Ulster Architects, 7 College Square North, Belfast, enclosing a deposit of £1 ls. 0d. in respect of each schedule of conditions required. The deposit will be returnable upon receipt of a bona-fide design or on the return of the schedule of conditions before 31st December, 1950. [4918]

CONTRACTS WANTED

PARQUET Floor Surfacers (St. Marylebone) Ltd., Homer Street, W.1. Flooring Specialists.—Phone AMB 6523. [4851]

IN YOUR MOMENT OF REMEMBRANCE



Please
Remember
Generously

Poppy Day

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Issued by British Legion Poppy Day Headquarters, Pall Mall, London, S.W.1
(Registered under the War Charities Act, 1940)



"ANKARBOARD" Fibre Building Board

Distributors in all parts of Great Britain. Supplies from forward Shipment and available Stocks in Warehouses at Main British Ports.

THE WOOD FIBRE WALLBOARD CO. 8, CITY ROAD, FINSBURY SQUARE, LONDON, E.C.1.



'KISOL' VERMICULITE

THE INERT ROT-PROOF, VERMIN-PROOF, and FIRE-PROOF INSULATING PROCESSED MINERAL LOOSE FILL, CONCRETE AND PLASTER AGGREGATE.

Send for samples and details. MONarch 0455

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